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Israel

The condition of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat following surgery to remove a blood clot from his brain is "far more serious" than his doctors have disclosed, acccording to HA'ARETZ, although the paper conceded that the PLO leader is "in no immediate danger." PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi has assumed 'Arafat's duties as PLO leader during his hospitalization and convalescence, Jerusalem radio noted. In another development, Labor Party chairman Yitzhaq Rabin said he would not return the Golan Heights to Syria—"not even in return for full peace," Jerusalem radio reported. Rabin made the remark during a tour of the Golan area.

Jordan

The director of Amman's Royal Medical Services stated that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat "underwent an operation to remove a blood clot," according to Amman radio. The official called the surgery "100 percent successful" and pronounced the Palestinian leader "in very good health," adding that 'Arafat will remain in the hospital "for three or four days." Meanwhile, a meeting of the foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and the PLO set for 3-4 June in Amman has been rescheduled for 6-7 June, Amman radio reported. The Jordanian Foreign Ministry said that the postponement was prompted by urgent engagements by some of the ministers who will participate in the meeting.

Iraq

The UN decision demarcating the new Iraq-Kuwait border was "purely political," according to Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn. In a message to the UN secretary general reported by INA, the minister said the only purpose of the demarcation was to deprive Iraq of its "geographical and historical rights," adding that the new borders will "create an atmosphere of dissatisfaction, turmoil and instability in the entire region."

Lebanon

During a meeting with the U.S. ambassador, Prime Minister al-Sulh asked Washington to intervene to halt the "Israeli aggression," the clandestine Voice of the Mountain reported. Al-Sulh said the U.S. envoy "promised that he would convey the request to his government." In another development, UN forces began patrolling areas in Marj 'Uyun, Hasbayya, al-Khiyam, 'Ayn Qinya, and Shwayya "for the first time since 1978," Beirut radio reported. The UN forces spokesman dismissed the report, Voice of the South noted.

Inter-Arab Affairs

ICO Condemns Israeli 'Siege' on Gaza Strip

LD0106164392 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0010 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Jeddah 31 May (SPA)— The Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) deplored the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip and the escalation of the barbaric racist practices carried out by the Israeli authorities against the population of the occupied Palestinian territories, which coincide with the escalation of its aggression on the security, safety, sovereignty, and independence of Lebanon and its steadfast people.

In a statement issued today [31 May], the general secretariat of the ICO condemned the Israeli practices and described them as constituting a challenge to international legitimacy and the Israeli authorities' insistence on aborting the peace process, which has been approved by the international community in order to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region of the Middle East.

The organization demanded that the international community and especially the UN Security Council shoulder their responsibility and stop these aggressive inhuman acts against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, and act as quickly as possible to ensure the necessary international protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories according to the principles of international law and particularly the fourth Geneva agreement of 1949 so as to enable the Palestinian people to practice their right to self-determination and to set up an independent Palestinian state, with holy Jerusalem as its capital, on their national soil under the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, its legitimate and sole representative.

The organization recalled that it had repeatedly drawn the attention of the international comunity to the seriousness of the deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories as a result of an increasing acts of murder, persecution, and oppression practiced by the Israeli occupation forces and the special death squads set up for that purpose against members of the Palestinian people.

GCC Committees Conclude Meeting in Riyadh

LD0106105592 Riyadh SPA in English 1933 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Riyadh, May 31, SPA—The joint meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) economic and financial cooperation, and trade cooperation committees was concluded in Riyadh on Sunday.

The president of the current session, Kuwaiti Minister of Finance Dari al-Othman [name and title as received] stated at the end of the meeting that the agenda contained three main issues.

He said the first is the issue of the added value. The committee discussed the relevant study submitted by specialized experts.

The second issue is related to trade exchange, while the third was related to improving the rules governing the activities of GCC citizens in the member states.

He added that one of the most important issues they agreed upon is facilitating trade exchange to increase the flow of trade among the six member states.

AMU Leader on Summit Prospects, Libya Sanction

PM0106114492 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 May 92 p 2

[Interview with Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) Secretary General Mohamed 'Amamou by 'Abdallah Ould Mohamedi in Nouakchott; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ould Mohamedi] It has been claimed that the Arab Maghreb is in danger. Throughout the Maghreb there are political tension, conflicts, and problems. That is in addition to the crisis which carries the threat of confrontation between Libya—a Maghreb country—and some Western states. How do you view the future?

['Amamou] Let me say that those who claim that "the Arab Maghreb is in danger" are not from the Arab Maghreb. [passage omitted]

I can confirm that the Arab Maghreb's steps, which may seem slow at times, have been steady and in line with the plans laid down by the Arab Maghreb leaders within the framework of joint Maghreb action. We cannot deny, however, that sometimes subjective circumstances in the Maghreb region and Maghreb countries negatively affect the course of the scheduled meetings, but that does not at all mean that the Arab Maghreb is in danger, that its work has stopped, or that its future is in question. The Maghreb Union [UMA] continues its march. Intensive consultations among its leaders and governments are continuing, as are the meetings and exchanges of visits within the Union. All this proves that the Union is proceeding normally in accordance with the agreed timetable and within the context of the agreed program. You have mentioned Libya's differences with some Western states. That issue has preoccupied the UMA leaders. They have discussed the issue at length, exchanged views, and embarked on mediations. Their genuine efforts are continuing in order to spare our Maghreb region and Libya any harm to their stability and security, the aim being to find a peaceful solution to the dispute between Tripoli and Washington, London, and Paris. [passage omitted]

[Ould Mohamedi] Why was the Maghreb summit postponed?

['Amamou] Because of certain circumstances—the presidential and legislative elections—Mauritania was unable to attend. Other circumstances beyond the Arab

Maghreb's control, such as the crisis between Libya and the West, also contributed to some extent the summit's postponement, but it summit has been only postponed until the Maghreb leaders agree on a new date. Consultations are currently under way to that end.

[Ould Mohamedi] The Libyans have criticized the Arab Maghreb. According to Algerian President Boudiaf, Libya has threatened to withdraw from the UMA if the member states implement the sanctions resolutions. Do you see this as part of the danger we talked about earlier?

['Amamou] As UMA secretary general, I have not been informed by Libyan officials of anything in that regard. As for the implementation of the Security Council resolution, that is what is known as international legitimacy and we all, including Libya, have been urging, and will continue to urge, the implementation of international legitimacy. I said so when the Security Council passed its resolution imposing sanctions against Libya; but does international legaitimacy, which is binding on all, mean closing the door to dialogue? Libya has expressed readiness for dialogue on the basis of international legitimacy while also upholding its sovereignty. [passage omitted]

AMU Communications Ministers End Meeting

LD0106215692 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 2030 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Maghreban delegations taking part in the fifth session of the Post and Telecommunications Ministers' Council of the Arab Maghreb Union, AMU, left the capital this afternoon. The Moroccan post and telecommunications minister, Mr. Mohamed Laensar, in a statement to the Mauritanian news agency at the airport, expressed his satisfaction at the good results of the session. These results, he said, will serve the Maghreban citizen through the facilities it will offer him in the sphere of communications.

The AMU, he added, has passed through an important stage during the past three years.

He went on to say that the audience granted by the president of the Republic to the Maghreban delegations to the fifth session of the AMU Post and Telecommunications Council has underlined the great importance the president attaches to the field of communications in the Arab Maghreb.

The fifth session of the Council of Post and Telecommunications Ministers of the AMU stemmed from the infrastructures committee of the AMU has concluded its proceedings today at the Culture House. [passage omitted]

Islamic Affairs

Islamic League Head on Kuwaiti Prisoners in Iraq

LD0106214792 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2134 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Mecca, 1 Jun—The secretary general of the Islamic World League, Dr. 'Abdallah 'Umar Nasif, sent a message to the UN secretary general regarding Kuwaiti prisoners held in Iraq.

Dr. Nasif condemned the Iraqi regime's persistence in holding Kuwaiti and other multinational prisoners and its noncompliance with various international bodies' resolutions about their release. He also described that conduct as sinful and highhanded. He specifically pointed out the resolution passed by the League's constituent council at its 31st session regarding those prisoners and the various kinds of physical and psychological tortures they were being subjected to without mercy.

On behalf of the Islamic World League—which represents all Islamic people and organizations—Dr. Nasif called on the United Nations to urgently address that humanitarian issue and to exercise pressure to force the Iraqi regime to submit to international legitimacy and release the detainees and facilitate their return to their countries. [passage omitted]

ICO To Convene Over Bosnia-Serbia Conflict

LD0106103492 Tehran IRNA in English 1424 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Abu Dhabi, May 31, IRNA—The extraordinary meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) will be held at a yet to be determined venue on June 16, to review the plight of Muslims in the Eastern European Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Iran's permanent envoy to OIC Sabah Zanganeh said in Jeddah today.

He said four topics proposed by Iran including the severence of diplomatic ties with Belgrade and recall of the Islamic countries' ambassadors from there, economic sanction against Yugoslavia as well as holding recognition from the new Yugoslav Federation until the establishment of ceasefire and settlement of the clashes between the Serbians and Bosnia-Hercegovina, will be discussed in the meeting. [sentence as published]

The OIC foreign ministers would also review the grounds for the full recognition of Bosnia-Hercegovina, he added. Iran has already recognized the republic, and last week recalled its envoy from Belgrade in protest.

Zanganeh said the Islamic Republic of Iran has also proposed to OIC member states to send immediate humanitarian aid such as clothes, medicines, foodstuffs and other basic needs for Bosnia-Hercegovina Muslims.

"In my meetings with the ambassadors of Islamic countries in Saudi Arabia, they also agreed on the convention of the extraordinary meeting of the (OIC) foreign ministers," he disclosed.

Hoping that senior officials of Muslim countries would participate in the meeting and would make special decisions to halt the massacre and homelessness of Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Zanganeh said the meeting would exert serious pressures on the Federal Army and the Serbian militia in order to force them to forego their aggression against and oppression of the Muslims.

"This meeting is also able to prepare the grounds for the speedy settlement of the Bosnia-Hercegovina issue through further cooperation among international circles, European countries as well as the United Nations," he said.

It will be the first emergency meeting of the OIC foreign ministers over the past ten years.

Palestinian Affairs

Slovenian, Croatian, Bosnian States Recognized

LD3005210892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] An official Palestinian spokesman stated the following on 28 May: The state of Palestine today decided to recognize the states of Slovenia, Croatia, and Bosnia-Hercegovina, in accordance with these peoples' will and wishes for self-determination and in accordance with the UN Charter. The official Palestinian spokesman expressed Palestine's desire to establish full diplomatic relations at the highest level with these states, proceeding from its desire to consolidate friendship and solidarity between Palestine and these friendly states.

PLO's al-Najjab Views Multilateral Talks

TA2705162892 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 24 May 92 pp 1, 11

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member Sulayman al-Najjab by Khalid Jarrad; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Jarrad] Can you give us an idea of what occurred in the meetings of the multilateral committees that concluded recently with the environment committee in Tokyo, and what was discussed in those committees?

[al-Najjab] What drew our attention is that the parties participating in the multilateral talks adhered to what they announced at the opening of the Moscow conference in January, namely, that the multilateral conference and the work of its committees do not substitute for but complement the bilateral talks, serving as a motivating force for achieving substantial progress in the bilateral talks.

Hence, the Palestinian position was positive, for we participated in all the committees, except for the arms control committee, to which we were not invited due to the position of the conference's cosponsors—Moscow and Washington.

Progress was achieved in Palestinian representation. Representatives from the Palestinian diaspora participated in the work of the committees about refugees and economic development. We shall continue our work, relying on the support of international parties that recognize the Palestinian people as one people, having a single representation. We shall continue our efforts so that we will be represented in all the committees by delegates who represent one people, the Palestinian people, part of which lives under the Israeli occupation and the other part in the diaspora.

Our participation in the multilaterals is a reaffirmation of our understanding that the political settlement process is a comprehensive and integral process that has two parts: The first one is the realization of Israeli withdrawal from all Arab and Palestinian lands occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem and ensuring the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. The second part is opening real vistas for economic, political, and security cooperation among all the region's states, including Israel. In adherence to this clear and responsible position, we participated in the work of the multilateral conference. We regret that the Israeli side has other calculations and therefore refused to participate in two major committees of this conference—those about refugees and economic development.

In the refugees committee, the participants affirmed—and this is a great achievement—that the Palestinian refugee problem has a political aspect and that this problem is political, not just humanitarian.

In this context, they relied on UN Resolution 194, which gives refugees the right either to return to the homes from which they were displaced or to be compensated, which, however, does not negate the need to improve conditions for the Palestinian refugees. The Palestinian side expressed its readiness to cooperate with international bodies, especially the UN Relief and Works Agency, to improve the refugees' situation until their problem is solved—not at the expense of this solution. We also noticed that most of the parties participating in the refugees committee shared this view and conviction. This is an important weapon that Israel's rulers must consider when addressing various aspects of the Palestinian problem, including that of the refugees. This is not a humanitarian problem for which the world is responsible, rather a political problem for which the Israeli Government, first and foremost, is responsible. This government is obligated to address the problem and to resolve it on the basis of the relative UN resolutions and Security Council Resolution 242. [passage omitted]

[Jarrad] Following the airplane incident involving president 'Arafat, international attention focused on the

importance of the PLO—which is formally excluded from the talks—and the president himself. Then, after the incident some surprises appeared, such as remembering Resolution 194. Is there any connection between the airplane incident and the current political developments, especially regarding the U.S. position?

[al-Najjab] I believe that the U.S. Administration is very well aware that it would have been impossible to achieve any progress in its current initiative for a political settlement—and it would have been impossible for Mr. Baker to achieve any success in his numerous trips to Jerusalem and the Middle East—without the consent of the PLO and its leadership. Now the U.S. Administration is showing signs that confirm it is convinced of the PLO's role. Therefore, it is no longer accepting Israeli complaints about the negotiating delegation's meeting with president Yasir 'Arafat or about the PLO's role in the negotiating process.

Of course, the U.S. Administration is aware of this as well as of the PLO leadership's and president 'Arafat's positive role in the current political process, but the U.S. Administration's practical appreciation of the PLO's role depends on the administration's readiness to begin a direct dialogue or to resume without intermediaries the direct dialogue between it and the PLO.

We have the right to demand and to expect this. The PLO, as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, is a basic factor in a settlement. All efforts to bypass this factor have failed.

Uprising Leadership Issues Intifadah Call 83

LD3005234392 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 May 92

[Intifadah call No. 83, issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising (UNLU)—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful:

No voice rises above the voice of the intifadah, the voice of the PLO.

Call No. 83, the call of steadfastness, issued by the UNLU:

O masses of our heroic people; O people of the valiant martyrs; O creators of the glorious intifadah; O heroes in all the trenches of struggle in the state of Palestine's villages, camps, and towns; O heroes in the Gaza of Hashim:

Through your heroic confrontation with the occupation forces using stones and Molotovs in the arenas of struggle, you are proving that our people are stronger than all the Zionist crimes perpetrated by the occupation army and the herds of its settlers and that our intifadah is too strong to be harmed by the repressive machinery of fascism no matter how much it persists in employing means of punishment and repression and no matter how much the siege and starvation are intensified against our people in the Strip.

While saluting the heroic martyrs of the Gaza Strip who fell by the bullets of the Israeli death squads and joined the heavenly body of our people's martyrs, the UNLU pledges to our faithful martyrs that it will persist in the path of struggle and martyrdom until our people achieve their national objective of freedom and independence.

Our masses remain steadfast with the advent of the 25th anniversary of Israel's occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories and with the statements that followed by Golda Meir, the prime minister of the Zionist entity, in which she claimed that there is no such thing as the Palestinian issue or the Palestinian people. Despite the passage of time, Israel continues to be dominated by a fascist mentality based on: denying Palestinian national rights; the persistent use of the most abominable means for repressing and persecuting our people; and efforts to keep the homeless in camps in the diaspora and attempts to uproot them materially and morally.

Despite the brutality of this Zionist onslaught, our people never ceased to stress their existence and the presence of their issue in combat and at the political level. Thanks to their sacrifices, our Palestinian issue now attracts the attention of international public opinion and all the world's peace-loving people.

Our Palestinian Arab people emerge today more determined than ever to attain national objectives embodied in the rights to return; self-determination; and establishing its own independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Although 25 years passed since Israel occupied our and Arab lands, institutions of international legitimacy have become toys in the hands of the United States and are still not serious about ending that hateful occupation. The U.S. position about implementing the resolutions of international legitimacy has taken the form of an onslaught, led by Washington, against our cause by reusing those resolutions and dealing with them on an eclectic basis.

While reiterating our people's determination to continue the struggle by various ways and means, the UNLU calls on the international community and its institutions to end the hateful occupation settlement; its repressive practices against the Palestinian man, land, and sanctities; and imposing international tutelage on our just people.

O masses of our brave people: Our intifadah has lasted 55 months. It has safeguarded its continuity thanks to wide popular participation in all its activities. [Words indistinct] of steadfastness and the failure of all occupation policies aiming to destroy it.

Departing from this truth, the UNLU—which has repeatedly called for, via communiques, protecting the

domestic front, entrenching national unity, and eradicating negative practices—has worked with extreme care and diligence for condemning and prosecuting all agents harming the masses and undermining the safety and security of our Palestinian society.

The UNLU greets the masses of our people in valiant Gaza and reaffirms its pride in their consciousness, high sense of national duty, and awareness of the plots being hatched against our people and [word indistinct] that was embodied in the massive popular meetings.

In this context, the UNLU will soon issue an agreement determining the bulk of national relations and the bases of joint national action at this stage. It also calls on national operatives and forces in the state of Palestine to lay down a national charter of honor that should protect the security of Palestinian society and rest on the following bases:

First, prohibiting aspects of internal fighting and punishing inciters to sedition.

Second, adopting democratic dialogue as [word indistinct] unique style for settling national disputes; consolidating the role of the national reform committees; referring to them; and adopting their resolutions.

Third, consolidating the steadfastness of the Palestinian internal front in light of the challenges and conspiracies which aim to create noise and divide our people and weaken their spirit.

Fourth, [words inditinct] for dealing with matters relating to those suspected of collaborating with the occupation according to firm national criteria set by the Palestinian supreme national organizational bodies.

O our steadfast masses: With the advent of the 28th anniversary of the PLO—the sole and legitimate representative of our people and the embodiment of its national hopes and ambitions—the UNLU reiterates the vow of struggle, martyrdom, blood, and determination to continue the struggle until our people's objectives of freedom and independence have been achieved.

The UNLU greets the meetings of the Palestinian Central Council; its serious position about the reality of the occupied land; its reiteration of support for the intifadah; its reaffirmation of the national constants; and its call for a halt to settlement, as well as thanks it for providing international protection for our people and for applying the fourth Geneva convention to the occupied lands.

O brave masses of the intifadah: The UNLU congratulates the masses of our people and those of the Arab and Islamic nations on the blessed 'Id al-Adha, which embodies the true Islamic concept of sacrifice and martyrdom. On this occasion, we call on the masses of our people to go to Al-Aqsa Mosque en masse to perform the 'Id prayers by way of confirmation of commitment to our sacrosants in the face of [word indistinct] and Judaization attempts.

The UNLU calls on the masses of our Palestinian state's capital to be cautious and vigilant in light of the attempts underway to Judaize the city of Jerusalem in various ways and forms.

The UNLU strongly condemns the man named Shaykh Takkuta for visiting Israel and for his shameless and provocative statements that [word indistinct] the sentiments of our people's masses and of those of the Arab and Islamic nations at large.

The UNLU condemns the phenomenon of planted statements that are being issued under various names and aim to create chaos in the ranks of our people. The UNLU calls on field commands to confront this phenomenon and expose those behind it.

The UNLU calls on field commands—particularly in Jerusalem—to organize stalls at markets on the approach of 'Id al-Adha in a way that would facilitate moving citizens at markets and prevent congestion in narrow streets.

As the date for convening the general secondary certificate examinations for this year approaches, the UNLU urges our male and female students who will take these examinations to redouble their efforts to safeguard the educational process—which depends entirely on our students' performance in these examinations—and to avoid completely attempts to plagiarize in view of it being an abnormal and alien practice and a threat to the achievements of our people at the educational level. It also urges our honorable students to expose and denounce planted elements who might try to plagiarize and disrupt the examinations. The UNLU also calls on all institutions and mass structures to meet and form national committees to supervise the progress and control of the examinations and to protect halls and proctors since they will be performing a sacred national duty. The UNLU warns any masked person [mulaththam] against coming anywhere near the examination halls or using headphones [samma'ah] to disrupt the progress of examinations. It will strike with an iron fist anyone who attempts to harm the progress of the examination and will consider them as being outside the national ranks. Furthermore, all those who attempt to plagiarize will be punished by being immediately banned from taking the examinations.

The UNLU calls for the following activities to be carried out:

1. 1 June, the International Day of the Child: Organize solidarity visits to the children of martyrs and detainees; hold marches and seminars to demand freedom, justice, and peace for our children.

2. 2 June: A day of protest about the criminal attacks against the elected heads of municipalities.

3. 3 June: A day of solidarity with the people of Nablus and the Gaza Strip, who are being subjected to a siege and barbaric campaigns of repression. In view of the

racist and fascist (?practices) perpetrated against Arab workers, we call on our workers to refrain from going to work inside the green [word indistinct] on that day.

4. 5 and 6 June: Days of special demonstrations marking the 25th anniversary of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories and the 10th anniversary of the Israeli storming of Lebanon. Palestinian flags to be raised in large numbers, and confrontation to be staged in all positions.

5. 7, 8, 10, and 11 June: Days of opening trading places marking the blessed 'Id al-Adha.

6. 9 June: Day of general strike about the intifadah entering its 55th month. In the event of this day coinciding with the standing on Mt. 'Arafat, (?the UNLU) calls for reducing the hours of the strike. Trading places should open their doors, and public transportation should operate after [words indistinct] in response to calls by citizens and commercial sectors and out of concern for public interest.

7. 16-22 June: Special week for activities supporting the detainees in the occupation prisons who are leading daily confrontations to thwart attempts to undermine their steadfastness and their determination to live and to demand a halt to the repressive practices perpetrated against them, confirmed by the latest (?Amnesty International) report that revealed the hideousness of those practices. Widespread sit-ins to be staged at the Red Cross headquarters during the week and news conferences will be held for that purpose.

8. 26-27 June: Days of opening shops and offices.

9. 28 June: General strike to protest the annexation of and attempts to Judaize Jerusalem. We call on our masses to consider that day a special day of struggle to affirm the Arabism of the noble Jerusalem, the capital of our Palestinian state.

10. 29-30 June: Days of special escalation against the soldiers of occupation and [word indistinct] settlers.

[Signed] UNLU

U.S. Responsibility for Achieving Peace Viewed

JN2705115792 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 May 92

[Commentary by political editor of the PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY, WAFA: "To whom Should the Question of Peace be Posed?"]

[Text] The footage shown on most world television screens about events in Tel Aviv the day before yesterday makes one stop and think. Was what happened to Jews the result of anger? It goes without saying that there is more to it than anger. Was it collective rioting and acts of demagoguery? That is correct. But it was organized, sanctioned, and controlled, because it was facilitated by the authorities, the police, the informers, and all those who work for the Israeli authorities.

Acts of rioting or angry reactions have been witnessed in different societies and states that were experiencing various circumstances that fell short of living under occupation. But what we saw exceeded all this, because this rioting was bloody and targeted all that is Palestinian. It was ghastly, more ghastly than any violence, terrorism, or acts of homicide. The Israeli authorities were engaged in arrest campaigns, while the mad, rancorous, and racist Jewish mobs were forcing Palestinians out of police cars, attacking them, and beating them amidst the hysterical and racist shouts of "Death to Palestinians, death to Arabs." According to Israeli reports, more than 150 Palestinians were arrested in Tel Aviv and its suburbs. They were lined up against walls, with rifles directed at their backs. They did not know when the fatal shot would be fired at them. The mad shouts demanding their death nurtured the terrorist instincts of the Israeli soldiers who were standing behind them.

Can there be a more outrageous terrorism? Can there be a more condemnable encroachment on human beings, human rights, and peoples than this? The savagery that we saw on 24 May put before all, particularly the United States, the question of peace and its highly sensitive core. After all Arabs endorsed peace efforts, the question of peace can no longer be raised against the Arabs. This question should be posed to the Jews and, first and foremost, to the Israeli authorities headed by Shamir, which are providing the world with this highly significant footage to show their attitude toward peace. This footage should be added to the scenes of killing and crazy destruction wreaked against the fraternal Lebanese people in southern Lebanon.

In view of these scenes and practices and their background, we ask the following question: Are we heading for peace, or is what is actually occurring no more than theatrics meant to waste time so that ultra-Zionists may entrench their feet on the land and so that Israel may persist with its policy of changing facts on the ground and imposing faits accomplis. It is not sufficient for the United States to claim that it is endeavoring to achieve peace. The first world and other worlds must not follow the United States into the unknown, especially since this unknown is categorically rejected by the sole party that has the key to peace—namely, the Israeli side. Furthermore, the ongoing negotiations would fail to produce any results unless basic issues are addressed. The peace issue is inextricably linked to the withdrawal issue. All negotiations must revolve around this issue. The negotiations must address the issue of withdrawal; negotiations must result in withdrawal.

Having said all this—and against the background of the television footage we have seen, which showed heinous terrorism being practiced against the Palestinians—we do not believe that peace is imminent and achievable

unless the Israeli policy shows some response to the new world changes and also unless it submits to these changes. The first manifestation of such submission would be the total elimination of the Israeli nuclear power, eliminating this superiority that could jeopardize all Arabs' security. This superiority whets the Israeli expansionist appetite for war and torpedoes peace opportunities, which is the responsibility of the United States in the first place; it is a responsibility that must emerge in practical terms.

Egypt

Mubarak Addresses Journalists on Media Role

NC3105155592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak stressed the importance of the Egyptian media, which represent the nation's conscience, their great impact on the Arab region, and their presence on the international scene. He said that the Egyptian media have played a vanguard role in the region, achieving constant progress to keep pace with developments.

This came during President Mubarak's meeting with media personnel, journalists, and intellectuals today on the occasion of the 9th Media Personnel Day. The meeting lasted more than three hours and was followed by another meeting with Egyptian actors and musicians.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak reviewed several internal and external issues. A frank dialogue followed between President Mubarak and Egyptian media personnel, journalists, and intellectuals.

Answering a question on the Damascus Declaration, President Mubarak said: Let us wait until the next meeting of the Damascus Declaration states' foreign ministers, to be held in June. The full facts will then be declared and all matters will be clarified.

Answering a question on religious fanaticism and the responsibility of state institutions, political parties, and society in confronting it, President Mubarak said: All of Egypt's political, party, and legislative institutions represent the state's system. All the political and intellectual trends and all parties are responsible for correcting all erroneous ideas and for confronting religious fanaticism.

He said: Defining the size of this fanaticism must be based on reality and devoid of exaggeration and sensationalism. All the political, ideological, and party trends must adopt a concept which conforms with reality.

Regarding a proposal by Dr. Faraj Fawdah to issue a law on fighting terrorism and on the role of all state institutions and society in combating fanaticism and correcting concepts, President Mubarak said that there are serious studies and plans to issue a law on fighting terrorism.

He said that a serious study is under way in this respect to make sure that this law protects society and fulfills the purpose for which it will be enacted. He stressed that this law must be in harmony with the Constitution, because there is no intention of amending the Constitution at this stage.

President Mubarak said: For the time being, the alternative is the emergency law, which is used to fight terrorism. He stressed that the emergency law has not been used to prevent someone from writing or to confiscate newspapers, although some violations have occurred.

President Mubarak called on all Egyptian parties, when dealing with any issue, to forget their partisanship and to always remember that "Egypt is above all."

Regarding several press articles that Muslims are being persecuted in all parts of the world, that they are being targeted by the West, and that there are attempts from outside Egypt to sow discord between Muslims and Christians, President Mubarak said: We have no information that there are external attempts to sow sedition in Egypt. Moreover, the world's Muslims are not targeted by anyone. There is no information corroborating this, but we must know our weak points, which stem from ourselves and from our reality and differences. These differences indicate that there is disarray in the Islamic ranks. We must closely examine matters to find the roots and causes of our weakness and differences. We must not judge things by their appearances.

Giving an example, President Mubarak said that it is the West which is giving aid to the Somali Muslim people. This is what we expect from foreign institutions which offer humanitarian aid without discriminating between Christians and Muslims.

President Mubarak asked: Does this not indicate that humanity does not differentiate between religions?

President Mubarak said: In our writing, we must observe Islam's true dimensions and concepts. He stressed that there can be no custodianship over Muslims or Christians, noting that Egypt's flag brings together Muslims and Christians who have equal rights and duties. He added: We must differentiate between sedition on the one hand, and individual and collective attacks and aggression on the other, which are governed by certain customs and circumstances that are portrayed as sectarian sedition.

On protecting Egyptian production, President Mubarak said: We must bear in mind the protection of local products while keeping the door open to imports. He noted that every country pursues certain policies to protect its local products while maintaining a free economic system. He stressed his interest in promoting and upgrading the quality of national products.

President Mubarak noted his concern about field visits to public and privately owned factories. He pointed to his efforts on the international level to open new markets for Egyptian products. He stressed that adopting the free economic system does not mean relinquishing the giant economic bastions, which we will retain because they constitute an economic, political, and social safety valve.

On differences between the opposition parties and government policy, President Mubarak noted that it is only natural that there should be differences of views between the opposition parties and the majority party. When we are facing a national issue, however, all parties must be open to all views and discuss them, because national issues are above all parties and supreme interests are above any other considerations.

On some people's views on freedom of speech in Egypt and the formation of several societies which claim to safeguard human rights and try to publish reports distorting facts and suggesting the existence of torture, President Mubarak said: The principle we uphold is to respect human rights and reject anything which harms man's dignity. As for mistakes made in this respect, there is the judiciary, which is just in Egypt. He asserted that anyone who attacks a citizen will not be protected. He said that he is more concerned about human rights than anyone in Egypt, stressing that any offender will be referred to the judiciary without hesitation. He noted that torture cases will not be disregarded by the passage of time. He added that although we respect human rights, it is unacceptable for human rights to be used as a pretext for interference in domestic affairs.

On the connection between social peace and economic development in Egypt through increasing the number of small industries and the National Democratic Party's role in enlightening citizens, President Mubarak said that Egypt is not a country with a single party, but a multiparty country and all parties should play in role in enlightening citizens about the importance of economic and social change and increasing the number of small industries. He noted that the social fund is playing a role in increasing small industries and pointed out that efforts were made in the past few years to establish and expand small industries and to encourage productive families throughout Egypt's governorates.

On environmental pollution, President Mubarak underscored the importance of environmental awareness, noting that a plan is being implemented to improve the use of fuel and gradually reduce car fumes according to specifications. He noted the plan to install filters on the cement factory smokestacks in Cairo. He emphasized the importance of safeguarding the Nile from pollution.

President Mubarak also explained the dimensions of Egypt's foreign policy. Regarding Egyptian-Sudanese relations and the Hala'ib issue, he stressed that Egypt will not relinquish any right or land and that relations between the two peoples will be stronger when all pending issues are settled so that the present and future will be based on a sound foundation.

Regarding the Libyan-Western crisis, President Mubarak explained the ongoing contacts to narrow the gap between the two parties, noting the attempts that he has made and continues to make to reach a solution on which the two parties can agree. He reviewed the arduous efforts Egypt has made since the outset of this crisis.

President Mubarak also touched on Egyptian-Iranian relations, the dimensions of the new world order, the developments following the disintegration of the former Soviet Union, and the economic and political circumstances that the new Commonwealth of Independent States is facing.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif made a statement at the beginning of the meeting. He welcomed President Mubarak at the ceremony for the 9th Media Personnel Day, which he described as a day of free speech, pioneering media, honest and nationalistic writers, and a day for all Egyptians. He stressed that Egyptian media serve as genuine examples of Egyptian contributions, aspirations, and difficulties. The media are the expression of Egypt's credibility and political weight. He stated that Egypt is truly living its richest era of freedom, because President Mubarak's policy is not to prevent any writer from expressing his views, be he a supporter or an opponent, because all writers are Egypt's sons.

Mutual Investment Accord Signed With U.S.

NC2805201692 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 May 92

[Excerpts] Cairo, 28 May (MENA)—Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, and U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Robert Pelletreau today signed a treaty on the protection and encouragement of mutual investments between Egypt and the United States.

In a speech after the signing ceremony, Dr. Makramallah said that the treaty represents an important turning point in Egyptian-U.S. economic relations and is the fruit of long years of strenuous efforts and the two governments' commitment to the principles of free and open foreign investment. [passage omitted]

In exclusive statements to MENA, Dr. Makramallah stressed the importance of the agreement, saying that it will provide Egypt with the financial resources it needs to finance the economic development projects. He added that the U.S. investor will bring modern technology to Egypt and will provide job opportunities for Egyptian workers, who are trained and whose wages are reasonable, factors which have a bearing on the final cost of products.

He said: The U.S. investor prefers to come to Egypt because projects depend on exports to neighboring countries. Egypt's geographical position allows easy export of products to neighboring countries. In addition, one has to take into account the size of the Egyptian population, which creates great opportunities for marketing. [passage omitted]

Dr. Makramallah said that the Egyptian Government's role ended with the signing and the exchange of the treaty's instruments of ratification. Now, he said, the private sector investor need to act, take the initiative, accept the calculated risk, and enter into honest competition with the foreign investor so as to have the leading role in development.

People's Assembly Supports Sanctions on Serbia

NC3105120292 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—The People's Assembly regrets the continuing battles in Bosnia-Hercegovina and the threat to citizens' lives.

Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Dr. Muhammad 'Abdallah said in a committee statement today that Egyptian, Arab, and Islamic public opinion is concerned about the regrettable events in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The statement said the Egyptian leadership has closely followed the tragedy, taking a clear stand to put an end to the massacres, and that the People's Assembly has also held several sessions to discuss the grave situation, issuing statements condemning the escalating action against Bosnia's citizens.

The statement emphasized the People's Assembly's support for the Security Council resolution imposing sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro because they continue to attack and repress Bosnian Muslims. It called for stopping the massacre of more civilians.

The statement said that recalling the Egyptian ambassador in Belgrade played an important part in having the international resolution issued, noting that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has tried to stop the situation deteriorating through its bilateral contacts and at the recent Nonaligned Movement conference in Indonesia, where Egypt and other nonaligned countries issued a resolution appealing to the Serbs to stop the massacres against Bosnia-Hercegovina. Serbia did not comply.

The committee thanked President Husni Mubarak and the government for their efforts to safeguard human rights everywhere, especially those of Muslims.

Government To Implement Sanctions

NC3105152892 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa stated that Egypt will implement the Security Council resolution passed yesterday that imposes sanctions against the Serbian Republic for its acts of aggression against the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina. He said that implementing this resolution will be in line with the well-known Egyptian policy of respecting international legitimacy. He said Egypt hopes that the government in Belgrade will realize the seriousness of its actions, cease its obstinacy, and halt its aggression, which is condemned not only by Muslims, but by all people.

The Arab Republic of Egypt decided to donate urgently needed medicine and food to Bosnia-Hercegovina to help its people overcome their ordeal.

Reportage on Visit by Tanzanian Vice President

Amour Meets With Sidqi

NC2905103292 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] Official Egyptian-Tanzanian talks, chaired by Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi and Tanzanian Second Vice President Salmin Amour, were held at the Prime Ministry this evening, with members of the Egyptian and Tanzanian delegations attending.

The talks discussed boosting cooperation between both countries in trade, economic, and cultural fields; the Middle East peace efforts; and current international issues.

For more than 90 minutes, both sides stressed the need to enhance friendship and cooperation.

Dr. Sidqi hosted a dinner in honor of Amour and his delegation tonight. Amour arrived in Cairo this evening on a four-day visit to Egypt, during which he will convey a message to President Husni Mubarak from Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

[In a similar, but shorter, report, Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1457 on 28 May adds the following:

["Salmin Amour, president of Zanzibar and second vice president of Tanzania, arrived in Cairo this afternoon."]

Concludes Visit 31 May

NC3105090592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—Tanzanian Second Vice President Salmin Amour and his delegation left Cairo this morning following an official four-day visit, during which he met with President Husni Mubarak.

Amour also held talks with Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi about strengthening bilateral cooperation. Dr. Sidqi saw him off at the airport.

Parliament Committee Discusses Ties With Sudan

EA2805165092 Khartoum SUNA in English 1621 GMT 27 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (SUNA)—The Egyptian Parliament's Arab Affairs Committee affirmed Tuesday [26 May] the willingness of both Sudan and Egypt to see solutions for all of the disputes between the two countries, including the Hala'ib border issue.

The committee said in a statement following discussion of Sudanese-Egyptian relations, that the two countries were maintaining two basic factors in their bilateral relations which are the [word indistinct] bonds between the two peoples who share the River Nile and called for exertion of efforts towards further promotion of these links.

On the other hand, the chairman of the committee, Dr Muhammad Tulba Awida, denounced the so-called Sudanese opposition for its attempts to exploit him as a tool for realising its aims against the Sudan and its government, emphasising that his meetings with the opposition have merely discussed means of boosting of the relations between the two peoples in cultural, media and economic fields only. The said meetings have never touched on the Sudan's political issues, he added.

Of note, Ahmad (al-Sayyid Hamd), the chairman of the so-called Sudanese-Egyptian solidarity society, and Dr Faruq al- Birayr have issued statements claiming that they have discussed with Dr Awida solidarity with the Sudanese people against the Sudan's Government.

Loan Agreement Signed With Arab Development Fund

NC2805200492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1807 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA)—'Abd-al-Latif al-Hamad, chairman of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, left Cairo this evening at the end of a three-day visit. During the visit, he signed an agreement to finance a sewage system treatment project. Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, signed the accord for Egypt.

Under the agreement, Egypt obtains a 36-million-Kuwaiti-Dinar loan to be repayed over 20 years with a five-year grace period and a low interest rate.

Libya

Al-Bishari Receives Egypt's al-Baz

NC0106204492 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Ibrahim al-Bishari, Libyan secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, today received Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. Dr. al-Baz arrived in Tripoli last night and is expected to return to Cairo tonight.

This is al-Baz's third visit to Tripoli in three weeks. His visit is part of the continuing consultations between the leaders of the two countries.

'New World Order' Said 'Blessing in Disguise'

LD0106180492 Tripoli JANA in English 1640 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli, al-Sayf 1 (JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—Under the heading "A Blessing in Disguise," the GREEN MARCH newspaper, which is published by the revolutionary committees, today said that all the Arabs know very well that the dispute between the Great Jamahiriyah and the United States is part of the ongoing confrontation between this small Arab country and another large country in the world with the NATO alliance following not too far behind.

The newspaper said that this small country refused to demean its nation even though being in a vulnerable position, it refused to demean even one Arab on Arab territory and refused to sever a part of this nation so that it would become a nation for strangers who came here by using force to become the cancer which is afflicting the entire nation.

The newspaper went on to say that this country declared its freedom, that it wouldn't accept to be held ransom to others nor to subject itself to anyone. Nonetheless, this country is indeed fully willing to co-operate with these 'others' but only on the basis of respect and consideration for its national sovereignty.

The GREEN MARCH newspaper ended its article by saying "let history give an account of the full story, namely that Libya is the true creator of the new world order which actually has become 'a blessing in disguise'."

Meeting Condemns 'Spiteful Crusade' Against Islam

LD0106165992 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] The Secretariat of the General Pan-Arab Conference has issued a statement in which it calls on the world Islamic masses, missions, and organizations to stand resolutely and check the spiteful crusading campaign which is being led by world imperialism against the Arab nation and the Islamic peoples. In a statement circulated to the media, it reaffirmed that the spiteful crusade at no time stopped its conspiracies against Islam and Muslims ever since the emergence of the call of Muhammad, God's prayers and peace be upon him, but each time in a different form.

Having the material power and the means of destruction, it believes that it is capable of extinguishing the light of faith in the souls and extract Islam from the hearts, but the crusaders will never achieve this. But God will complete his light even if the unbelievers detest.

The statement stressed that the spiteful crusade is trying to prevent Muslims from the Great Jamahiriyah from performing the rites of Islam in one of its corners except by permission from the crusaders. The statement added: We do not await approval from the spiteful crusading West to give us the green light in order to perform our religious rituals. This is nothing but an evidence of the practicing the ugliest kind of terrorism—the terrorism of the so-called new world order under the umbrella of the UN and the Security Council.

The statement reaffirmed that all the false claims by the crusaders against the Great Jamahiriyah aim at obstructing the vanguard role of the Great Jamahiriyah in support of the issues of Islam and Muslims and because of its rejection of hegemony and refusal to be a lackey.

General National Congress Issues Statement

LD0106102492 Tripoli JANA in English 0812 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 1, JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretariat of the General National Congress in the Great Jamahiriyah issued a statement to Islamic masses, institutions and organisations drawing their attention to the renewed crusaders spite and hatred towards Islam and Muslims.

The secretariat said in its statement that history was repeating itself in different forms and that Western crusaders were hatching plots against Islam and Muslims.

It highlighted the colossal events and sufferings by Muslims from the usurping of occupied Palestine by the Zionists to the Gulf war, the plight of the Iraqis, the invasion of Lebanon, the massacres of Sabra and Shatilla which passed as if Muslims were not concerned by them.

It referred to the ban imposed on Muslims of the Great Jamahiriyah to travel by air to perform their religious duty of pilgrimage—one of the main tenets of Islam—without obtaining permission from the crusaders. It urged Muslim masses to confront the 10th crusaders' campaign and its dangerous effects.

The statement described the air ban on Muslims to travel to perform this religious ritual as an act of terrorism of the new international order under the umbrella of the so called the U.N Security Council and that the false claims levelled by the crusaders against the Great Jamahiriyah were merely aimed at the distortion of the leading and pioneering role of the Great Jamahiriyah in the daring resistance against the Western colonial schemes and her stance rejecting hegemony and subjugation and leading the struggle and support for the cause of Islam and Muslims.

Al-Qadhdhafi Urges Serbs, Bosnians To Talk

LD0206092592 Tripoli JANA in English 0804 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli, al-Sayf 1 [1 Jun], JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi contacted both President Alija Izetbegovic of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina and President Slobodan Milosevic of the Republic of Serbia in an attempt to stop the fighting taking place between them. JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY learned that Col. al-Qadhdhafi urged both presidents in his successive contacts to sit at the negotiation table and settle their disputes and conflicts through friendly and peaceful means. Actions are underway currently to lift the blockade of some besieged groups. Actions are also underway to lift the blockade from the Sarajevo airport.

Morocco

Polisario Leader Comments on Referendum

PM0106151692 Paris LE FIGARO in French 29 May 92 p 4

[Interview with Polisario Secretary General Mohammed Abdelaziz by Irene Jarry; date, place not given]

[Text] [Jarry] Does Morocco have rights over the West Sahara?

[Abdelaziz] No. However far back you go into history, Morocco has never entered the Western Sahara. After investigation, the International Court of Justice in The Hague gave a verdict in 1975 concluding that there is no link of territorial sovereignty between the Western Sahara and the Kingdom of Morocco or the Mauritanian entity.

[Jarry] Is the cease-fire being respected?

[Abdelaziz] In general, yes. Since 6 September, observers deployed in the region have not noted any real violations. But Morocco regularly makes incursions and reconnaissance flights which are violations of the cease-fire.

[Jarry] Will the referendum on self-determination for the Saharan people be held and, if so, when?

[Abdelaziz] We do not know on what exact date it will be held but we are convinced that there will be a referendum. I do not see how Morocco could thwart international will: It would be an attack on the United Nations. If Morocco had not blocked the UN peace plan, the referendum would have been held last January. We are now awaiting the conclusions of the UN secretary general's envoy who has just visited the region.

[Jarry] Morocco and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro [Polisario] do not agree on the drawing up of electoral registers. How do you think they should be established? And are you prepared to make concessions on this subject?

[Abdelaziz] In 1988, everybody agreed to establish lists based on the 1974 Spanish census. Second, Morocco then went back on that decision and put forward lists including Moroccans who had nothing to do with the Western Sahara. That was unacceptable. We are prepared to cooperate with the United Nations to hold discussions with Morocco and break the deadlock.

There could be a margin of error of between 1 and 6 percent in the Spanish census which says there are 74,000 Saharans. If the United Nations demands that that adjustment be made, we are prepared to make it. But we cannot accept the Moroccan demands to give an additional 120,000 people the right to vote.

[Jarry] Will the Polisario accept the result of the referendum if it is in favor of joining Morocco?

[Abdelaziz] Yes. We have already said that. If a democratic, and free referendum of authentic Saharans is carried out and if the people choose to be Moroccan, the Front will accept that choice.

[Jarry] It would seem that Algiers, which is facing major internal problems, is now dropping the Polisario....

[Abdelaziz] No. We are in constant contact with Algiers. The Algerian leaders have assured us of their firm and active support of the peace plan.

[Jarry] What do you expect from the French Government?

[Abdelaziz] The peace plan binds everybody, including France, which is a permanent member of the United Nations. France, because of its links with the North African countries, has a special responsibility in this region. It must take action in favor of implementation of the peace plan, respect for the law, and the Saharan people's right to self-determination. It must encourage its friends, like King Hassan II, to remove the obstacle to peace in our region.

[Jarry] In recent months, there have been defections to Morocco from Polisario ranks. What do you think of that?

[Abdelaziz] Those people represent nobody but themselves. They have occupied positions of varying degrees of importance within the Polisario. Some have failed in their task, others are tired of the hard life we have to lead, and yet others have been bought. Those are the elements who have joined the Moroccan police and are being used by it for propaganda purposes.

[Jarry] Some of them accuse the Polisario of torturing, and imprisoning those who no longer agree with it.

[Abdelaziz] The best answer I can give you is to go and see what is happening on the spot. I invite all the journalists in the world to go and investigate in the field. Some of those accusers have lived in Polisario ranks for many years, without finding any cause for complaint. Mrs. Gajmoula Bent Ebbi was educated by the Front. She was a politburo member for several years. At that time, she traveled, represented the Front abroad and was free to speak out. Why did she not denounce us if we were worthy of condemnation?

Then she was fired from her post as president of the Union of Saharan Women by the women who no longer wanted her to represent them. She refused to return to the ranks. She is now serving the Moroccan police. There is no truth in what she says.

Ahmad Husayn Letter Denounces Border Demarcation

JN0106172192 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1053 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jun (INA)—Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn has stressed that the decisions made by the commission on the demarcation of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border are illegitimate and constitute a serious UN precedent.

In a letter to UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali, he said: The decisions made by this commission are purely political ones dictated by the influential powers within the Security Council and the United Nations, particularly the U.S. and British Governments.

He emphasized that the obvious political motive not only seeks to deprive Iraq of its historical and geographic rights and to hurt the country's vital interests, but also to deliberately create an illegitimate, illogical, and outrageous situation that threatens the vital interests of an ancient people upon whom an ordeal has been imposed by armed force and political extortion.

He said that any Security Council endorsement of this unjust decision, which is intentionally directed by two Security Council permanent member states, will constitute a very serious precedent and a departure from the essence, results, duties, and responsibilities of the Security Council as defined by its Charter.

The foreign minister added: If the decision is approved, then the Security Council will not have helped to strengthen security and stability in the region. Rather, it will have intentionally created a permanent hotbed and deliberately hurt the vital and legitimate interests of a UN member state.

He stressed that the Arab nation will continue to view the decision as yet another link in the chain of Western colonialist games.

The following is the text of the letter:

Your Excellency UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali—New York

No doubt, you are cognizant of the decisions made on 14 April 1992 at the fifth session of the commission to whom you have entrusted the issue of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border, which was recently held in New York; namely, to demarcate the borders.

On this occasion, I would like to explain to you the viewpoint of the Iraqi Government on this serious issue in light of its vital importance not only to Iraqi interests, but also to mutual interests whether in the Arab region or in other regions of the world that are witnessing international disputes over borders.

First, I would like to refer to my letter to the UN secretary general, dated 6 April 1991, regarding the Iraqi Government's position on Security Council Resolution 687 of 1991, which was adopted on 4 April 1991. In the first clause of my letter, I tackled what had been stipulated in the aforementioned resolution with regard to the issue of Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders. In my letter, I stated the following:

1. [numbering as received] Despite the fact that the preamble of the resolution stresses that Iraq is an independent and sovereign state, the resolution, in many of its unjust provisions, does not respect this sovereignty. Rather, it encroaches on Iraq's sovereignty and the rights that are guaranteed in the UN Charter and by international laws and norms in an unprecedented manner. As far as the issue of borders is concerned, the Security Council imposed a certain status on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border. It is legally and practically known in international relations that the issue of borders must be left up to the states involved. That is the only way to guarantee border stability.

On the other hand, the Security Council resolution did not take into consideration Iraq's viewpoint, which is known to the Council—namely, that the constitutional procedures pertaining to the document known as "The Agreed Minutes With Regard To Restoring Cordial Relations, Recognition, and Pertinent Issues," dated 4 October 1963, have not been finalized. They were not notarized by the legislative authorities and the president of the state in Iraq. Hence, the border issue remained unresolved, and the Security Council imposed the Kuwaiti borders on Iraq. With this strange behavior, the Council itself violated a provision in Resolution 660, a resolution which was the basis for subsequent Council resolutions.

In Paragraph Three, Resolution 660 urges Iraq and Kuwait to resolve differences through negotiations. As you know, the border issue stands as one of the most important differences. Iraq has formally informed the Security Council of its acceptance of Resolution 660 and its readiness to implement it. The Council, however, has ignored this legal position. In violation of its past resolutions, the Council adopted an unjust resolution imposing new conditions on Iraq. Although Iraq is an independent and sovereign state and a member of the United Nations, a border situation has been imposed upon it. It has been denied the right to prove its territorial rights in accordance with the rules of international law, thereby denying it the right to exercise its free will and to register its complete satisfaction with these borders.

The Council resolution concerning the border issue is an unjust resolution that sets a serious precedent for the United Nations. This precedent violates the sovereignty of states. This has been affirmed by a number of fair UN Security Council members in the remarks they made during the voting session.

It is also noted that the United States, which presented the original draft of Resolution 687 imposing solutions on border and other disputes between Iraq and Kuwait, refuses to impose any solutions on its Israeli ally in

accordance with the conventions and resolutions approved by the United Nations on the basis of international law.

Moreover, the United States has prevented the Security Council from assuming its responsibilities toward the Arab-Zionist dispute and Israel's policy of annexing occupied Arab territories, establishing settlements, displacing populations, and denying the rights of the Palestinian people and neighboring Arab states. The United States has done this by vetoing any draft resolution approved by all other Security Council members simply because Israel does not accept a resolution seeking a fair solution to the dispute.

Second, in Paragraph Three of Resolution No. 687 of 1991, the Security Council asked the UN secretary general to help make the necessary arrangements with Iraq and Kuwait in order to demarcate the border between them using the appropriate materials, including the map attached to Security Council Document 22412/S, and to present a report to the Security Council on the issue within one month. Based on this, the secretary general prepared a draft report. The legal adviser for the United Nations then submitted this report to Iraq's permanent UN representative in New York during a meeting they held on 17 April 1991 and asked him to explain the view of the Iraqi Government. We made our observations in my letter, dated 23 April 1991, which includes the following points:

1. There is no legal basis for the Security Council to consider the map attached to Document 22412/S, issued on 28 March 1991 at the request of the permanent representatives of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, to be part of the appropriate material upon which the demarcation process should based. The Iraqi Government was not a party to the drawing of that map, nor has it recognized it. There is no evidence of any such recognition. In light of this fact, using that map as part of the material on which the demarcation process is based is seen as a unilateral move to act against the will of Iraq, which is a sovereign country and a member of the United Nations, and as a prejudgment of the border line before any commission has begun to undertake the process of border demarcation.

2. The secretary general's assistance in demarcating the border between Iraq and Kuwait should provide a balance between the demands of the two parties with regard to the demarcation process and settle any differences that might arise between their technical positions in order to achieve a just solution. Proceeding from this principle, we believe that the formation of the commission proposed by the secretary general to demarcate the border cannot achieve justice in light of what has been stated in the preceding paragraph. The secretary general proposed that the commission include five members. Two of them would represent Iraq and Kuwait, while the remaining three members would be independent experts. The secretary general would choose them and appoint one of them to be chairman. The secretary general also proposed that the commission would reach decisions on the basis of a majority vote. The Iraqi Government at the time expressed its belief that as long as it had no role in choosing these experts, it could not be sure of their independence. Consequently, its position on the demarcation process would be represented by only one member out of five.

3. In addition to the principles of Resolution 687 of 1991 on which the demarcation process is based, the UN secretary general's draft report contained other ambiguous and undefined principles. The draft report said that the commission can use the appropriate technology and take the measures necessary for diagnosing and examining any material bearing on the border demarcation. Iraq, therefore, asked that these concepts be clarified since this would help to reduce potential differences when the commission began its work.

4. The UN secretary general's draft report decided that Iraq should bear half the cost of the demarcation. This prompted the Iraqi Government to question the underlying causes of this principle, especially since the contents of the proposals in the draft report amount to what seems to be a contract of submission that Iraq is not allowed to dispute. Iraq was offered to bear half the cost of the demarcation without taking into account its opinion about the overall border demarcation issue. Accordingly, the Iraqi Government could not justifiably be expected to bear the cost of any operation that has been imposed upon it.

It should be pointed out that the Iraqi Government had emphasized to the UN secretary general that it was fully prepared to discuss the points it had raised in New York or anywhere else. It also indicated that, just as Iraq had accepted Resolution 687 of 1991 despite certain reservations about its content, the Iraqi Government would cooperate with the UN secretary general and name a representative to the demarcation commission even if the UN secretary general failed to take into account the Iraqi Government's observations and opinions, given that the circumstances compelling Iraq to comply still hold.

In his letter, dated 30 April 1991, the UN secretary general responded to Iraq's observations and opinions, focusing on the text of Resolution 687 of 1991 with regard to the bases for demarcation, as though they had not been known to Iraq. He assured Iraq that he would see to the independence of the experts. He referred to the demarcation commission the task of clarifying some of the ambiguous points underlying the demarcation process, claiming that their clarification by Iraq would undermine the objectivity of the process. He expressed the view that Iraq's contribution to the commission would enable the Iraqi Government to state its views; thus, it will have to bear half the demarcation costs.

With these replies, the secretary general did not touch upon the essential objective of Iraq's remarks and views. Generally, these remarks and views had entertained the

hope that—in light of the Security Council resolution imposing a formula for defining the border between Iraq and Kuwait and imposing the bases for the process of border demarcation—the secretary general would seek to secure justice and fairness by effecting a balance between the stands of the two parties and acheiving equality between them in some very vital areas, such as the composition of the commission, the method by which it will conduct its technical work, how it will adopt its decisions, the nature and capacity of such decisions, and other important issues. To this end, the Iraqi Government called for consultations. This call has been totally ignored by the secretary general. He submitted his draft report without any amendment to the Security Council in Document 22558/S, dated 2 May 1991.

Nevertheless, Iraq participated in the activities of the commission.

As you know, the commission held its first session in New York from 22 to 24 May 1991. The session was confined to the (?financing) of organizational matters. The commission established that its action is technical, not political, and that the nature of its task is confined to border demarcation. It asked two independent experts, Ian Brook of Sweden and William Robertson of New Zealand [names as received], to submit an action plan at the subsequent session.

The commission's second session was held in Geneva from 1 to 12 July 1991. At this session, the two independent experts presented a discussion paper that, according to them, contained information on the background of the interpretation of the so-called borderline. This constituted the starting point for the commission's discussions.

At that session, as you know, the commission adopted a host of serious substantial and technical decisions in accordance with which it determined the basic pillars of the so-called land borderline. That took place amid a peculiar atmosphere that no impartial and objective observer can ignore. Allow me to register one example as to how the commission reached a major substantial decision regarding the point of the line's curve in Safwan. It is a point that controlled the so-called borderline in the north and toward the east.

In their interpretation of this, and in order to confirm its basic points, the two independent experts adopted [words indistinct] Britain was the colonialist power and the one which controlled the region. To substantiate their viewpoint, the two experts said that they had referred to Iraqi maps and had deduced from them that there is a specific Iraqi concept on the demarcation of what was called borders, although the said maps explicitly stated that they cannot be adopted for demarcation purposes. Thus, they said, this should result in the nonrecognition of such a method for defining the borderline, its implicit acceptance, or its acceptance by remaining silent. To substantiate their view on the Iraqi concept of the border demarcation, the two experts based their opinion on an Iraqi diplomatic memorandum, dated June 1940, on the location of a border marker that the British had laid down south of Safwan, as well as on an Iraqi proposal, dated in the year 1955, on the method to be adopted for demarcating the borders between Safwan and the sea. This proposal contained an amended forumula, which was called "the delineation of borders for 1932," although everyone knew that Iraq had not agreed in advance to any demarcation formula, be it British or from any other party, not to mention the fact that Britain had rejected what was contained in the Iraqi memorandum of 1940 and had distorted the Iraqi proposal of 1955. Kuwait also had rejected it.

For example, in reply to the approach the two experts had adopted on the establishment of a curve in the line of what is called a border in Safwan, the Iraqi representative said that the two experts did not pay much attention to the formula contained in the 1932 document; they had devoted their attention to the maps only. As is obvious from the said formula, Safwan was mentioned twice—once in the formula pertaining to "the south of the Safwan parallel" as a description for determining the end of the line in the western area of Wadi al-Batin only and not for any other purpose, and the second time under the formula of "passing south of the Safwan wells" as a description of the course of the line toward the east from the al-Batin point to the point of convergence between Khawr 'Abdallah and Khawr al-Zubayr. From this it becomes clearly evident that the Safwan curve has been created without any justification. In this respect, the Iraqi representative also outlined that the adoption of a purely surveying approach on this point means giving an incomplete picture from the available material.

To prove this point, Iraq's representative asked the commission to consider the fact that the Kuwaiti authorities had moved northward after 1963 by advancing border centers, border forces, and oil exploration areas and by establishing farms. All these measures were objected to in the Iraqi memorandums, which were submitted through official channels. These memorandums refer to the border area and not to a definite line. Iraq's representative briefed the commission on a number of documents representing copies of passports stamped by a border center, which was set up by the Kuwaiti authorities in al-Mitla' in the early sixties and which was moved more than 70 km northward. Iraq's representative also said that a translation of these documents and memorandums would be provided to the commission. The representative explained that Iraq had not submitted them until the Geneva meeting because it had been impossible to know what would be required prior to seeing the report by the two experts. Therefore, he asked the commission to give enough time for such things.

Iraq's representative also recalled that during his visit to the area separating Iraq and Kuwait in June 1991, he had asserted that the commission should give its members

enough time to conduct accurate research into documents and libraries and to perform thorough and fair work. I have just concentrated on the way the commission dealt with one basic point on the borderline in order to clarify the way the so-called appropriate materials of demarcation were used. What has been said in this regard applied, in fact, to the other points as well.

Instead of taking enough time to decide matters and to wait for the documents and memorandums to which Iraq's representative had referred, the commission hastily adopted basic and technical decisions regarding the so-called borderlines as a result of obvious pressure from Kuwait's representative. Decisions came one after another like the movement of a steamroller steered by Kuwait's representative in complete harmony with the two experts. The said representative posed questions requiring specific answers from the two experts. As a result, the proposals, some of which were formulated in consultation between himself and the two experts, were put to a vote.

The commission has failed to comply fully with procedural rules or to consider the intricate nature of the matters addressed by the resolutions, thus letting one decision have total impact on the substance of subsequent resolutions. The commission's resolutions have exceeded the recommendations of the experts. This is in addition to the fact that they were passed in a manner that quite contradicts the formula for delineating the borders. The haste with which the substantial and technical resolutions were passed during the second session was defended by the argument that the UN secretary general's report had recommended that demarcation be effected as soon as possible in order to promote border stability, peace, and security. In actual fact, the commission eventually adopted a series of unilateral resolutions in terms of source and content. Here also comes to the fore a key and undeniable fact; namely, that the question of the borders between Iraq and Kuwait was approached from the perspective of preconceived views so that in the end options are imposed upon Iraq, be it in terms of demarcating or delineating the borders, without any reference to Iraq's interests or the historical documents supporting these interests. Consequently, no room has been left for ensuring justice and fairness for Iraq's territorial interests. UN Security Council Resolution 687 of 1991 stipulated a formula for delineating the borders. It required that a predetermined approach be adopted in the way borders are demarcated through obtaining the appropriate materials, reliance on a British map being one of them.

Then came the UN secretary general's report to confirm the preconceived approach. This was evidenced in the way the commission was formed and by the way it adopted its resolutions and stipulated additional criteria by which the demarcation was to be conducted; that is, by designating the longitudes and latitudes as the bases for ratifying the geographical coordinates. All this has led to the adoption of evidence built on survey alone, leaving no elbowroom for the furnishing of evidence from any other appropriate material.

It should be pointed out that, pressed for time, the commission did not get around to discussing the issue of the convergence point of Khawr 'Abdallah and Khawr al-Zubayr, which represents the eastern point of the course—an issue that it addressed during its third session convened in Geneva from 12 to 16 August 1991. In this regard, the two independent experts advised that this point be determined along the lines of a 1932 exchange of letters, an idea endorsed by the commission's chairman.

Interestingly, the commission reached this conclusion after lengthy discussions. It seems to have been motivated by a desire to satisfy and to appease the representative of Kuwait, thus sacrificing the rules of procedure. The said representative had sought to achieve two goals. The first was to determine the location of the point at issue as it stands now so that Iraq is denied the historical rights it has enjoyed to the waters situated at the place where the two converge. The second was to make the commission demarcate the sea borders at Khawr 'Abdallah, despite the fact that this is beyond its terms of reference.

However, the second goal still exists. The commission gave time to the representative of the Kuwaiti authorities to present the issue once again during a special session held in New York from 8 to 16 April 1992, and it decided to resume discussion during its ensuing session. After the commission had made a decision about the basic points of the borderline and had approved the technical demarcation criteria and the technical arrangements for the field, experts began implementing these decisions between the third and fifth sessions of the commission. As you know, the commission approved the borderline during its fifth session in New York. In this regard, we should register some basic facts.

The two independent experts examined the point where the so-called borderline makes a curve in Safwan in implementation of a technical decision made by the commission during its second session. However, they did so in a manner flagrantly conflicting with the content of the said decision. The decision the commission made on 11 July 1991 authorized the two experts to conduct investigations and to collect the required information to enable the commission to demarcate the northern border accurately.

During the fifth session of the commission it was learned that Kuwait's representative and his experts had accompanied the two experts during their investigations of the Safwan area, contrary to the commission's decision. Iraq's representative was informed of this fact, as expressed during the discussion raised by Iraq's representative about this issue following these investigations.

In light of the commission's decision, Iraq's representative objected to the idea as soon as he was informed. Refer to this discussion in the minutes of the session for more details.

It is also clear that the two experts not only accompanied the representative of the Kuwaiti authorities and his experts to witness the defining of the point where the borderline makes a curve in Safwan, but they also adopted the opinion of the Kuwaiti experts on the basis of British sources. Refer to minutes IKBDC/MIN/39/ and Document IKBDC/DOC/8/ for more details. Thus, the representative of the Kuwaiti authorities participated in field efforts to define the Safwan point, despite the fact that he was a party to and had direct interests in the matter and despite the fact that the commission's decision did not authorize anyone to do this. Ignoring Iraq's representative in this way also violates the rules of ethics and the principle of goodwill. The curve of the borderline in Safwan was created, contrary to what was even stated in the 1932 document on defining the border, as we have explained, only because the British officials had decided during their colonization of the region to demarcate that point. The experts used a 1941 Iraqi memorandum as a starting point to create the border point under discussion, although the successive Iraqi Governments had never approved any formula for demarcating the border, as we likewise have already explained.

It is noteworthy that the commission's experts have not relied solely on British sources to delineate the border from that point toward the west and the east. They argued that delineation has been dictated by the survey and the technical nature of the commission's task. This has been asserted by the commission on several occasions since its first session. The commission's debates clearly point to the contrary. This can be seen in the experts' declared views with regard to the binding force that they have attached to evidence concerning the occupation of land for delineation purposes.

The commission has adopted what the experts have decided. This has led to the appropriation of vast areas of Iraqi territory, established as such before this date, along with the oil sources that it contains. British colonialists have been aware of these oil sources since they controlled the area. Moreover, Iraqi citizens have been denied their homes and farms which constitute the source of their livelihood and which they inherited generation after generation throughout history. In addition, this denies Iraq many installations and any meaningful access to the sea. As for the location of oil wells, the Kuwaiti authorities themselves have admitted that they had encroached upon these Iraqi wells. This admission was made by Sa'd al-'Abdallah during his meeting with the vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council in Jeddah on 30 July 1990.

There is another substantial fact that must be recorded by history: The commission's work and the speed in which it adopted its border demarcation resolutions have not been removed from the intervention of the General Secretariat. All members of the commission are fully aware of the fact that Alvaro de Soto, senior political adviser to the UN secretary general, summoned the head of the commission and its two experts and secretary on Monday morning, *17 April 1992. At that* meeting, he urged them to accomplish the mission swiftly and unhesitatingly. This unjustified intervention took place at the request of the permanent representative of the Kuwaiti authorities to the United Nations.

Some may think that this intervention is in line with the contents of the secretary general's report contained in Document S/22557 to the effect that the commission is answerable to the secretary general. Such an idea is unfounded. The commission is not comprised of the chairman and two independent experts only, but also includes a representative of each side.

A prominent fact about the results of the commission's work is that this UN commission came out with a line for the land borders that is based on British sources and interpretations that harm Iraq's interests more than the British line based on the same sources and interpretations on the British map that is mentioned in UN Security Council Resolution 687 of 1991 and which was not recognized by the successive Iraqi governments.

Fourth [as received]: The results attained by the commission conflict with historical facts and geography.

Iraq, as a political entity and the cradle of more than one civilization throughout history, constitutes a well-established fact over thousands of years. Throughout its history, Iraq has been a maritime country and an important trade center. The small village that was established over the past two centuries on the banks of the Arabian Gulf and which was called Kuwait, an Iraqi appellation meaning a small populated colony had been an Iraqi district within al-Basra Province during the 19th century and until the eruption of World War I. It was part of Iraqi territory in accordance with the administrative laws that were enacted by the Ottoman Empire at the time. The Wali of al-Basrah, Muhsin Pasha in 1897 informed the Shaykh of Kuwait, Mubarak al-Sabah, of the Sultan's decision to appoint him as district officer of Kuwait district, which is affiliated to al-Basrah Province, after the shaykh of Kuwait had killed his two elder brothers, Muhammad and Jarrah, at the instigation of Britain because they opposed the British scheme to make Kuwait an entity belonging to it and placing it under its influence.

In 1899, Britain made Mubarak al-Sabah, the shaykh of Kuwait, sign a secret agreement with it to protect him although he was an official of the Ottoman Empire and had no right to sign an international agreement. This agreement was rejected by the Ottoman sultan and Mubarak al-Sabah in 1901 reiterated his allegiance and loyalty to the Ottoman Empire.

Britain did not cease its attempts. Britain used to establish bases in various parts of the Arabian Gulf to impose

its colonialist control over this region in view of its strategic value in political and military terms, which was becoming more important in light of the rivalry with the Ottoman Empire, in view of the economic factor given that it is an important trade route and contains huge oil reserves, and to secure the interests of the British Empire by weakening all the countries in the region. That's why it concentrated its influence in Kuwait and laid out fabricated borders as it and France, its ally did during World War II when they divided influence in accordance with the 1916 Sykes-Picot agreement.

It separated a part of Iraq in a devious manner to deprive Iraq, the country with a deep-rooted civlization, population, and land from a natural outlet to the Arabian Gulf water which it had enjoyed throughout history.

Since its founding in 1921, Iraq has refused to recognize the results of this colonialist British act. Despite the close links between the Iraqi regime and Britain at that time, the successive Iraqi governments continued to demand the return of the sliced-off portion. They also demanded that Iraq be dealt with fairly in terms of history and geography, in a manner that safeguards the country's economic and commercial interests, and ensures the necessary protection for defending the country's national security.

But Britain continued to pressure the successive Iraqi governments into accepting the status quo. When the British government forced the Iraqi prime minister in 1932 to exchange correspondence with the British high commissioner in Baghdad on the description of borders, in light of the proposed draft agreement between the Ottoman and British governments—which was not ratified because the war broke out—the Iraqi house of representatives, which is the legislative authority according to the Constitution, refused to ratify the correspondence.

In the thirties, popular demand in both Iraq and Kuwait for the return of Kuwait to Iraq grew. The national press adopted these demands and substantiated them by articles and historical documents. In his letters to the British Political Resident in the Gulf in 1933, Colonel Dixon [name as received], the British political representative in Kuwait, mentioned this fact. He warned against rapprochement, and called for separating the sons of Kuwait from the sons of Iraq.

In 1940, the ruler of Kuwait replaced the Iraqi administration of the postal department in Kuwait with a British administration. In 1945, Iraqi textbooks and curricula used in Kuwait were replaced by Egyptian ones.

King Ghazi, the second king of Iraq, was one of those people enthusiastic for the unity of Iraq and Kuwait. He expressed an interest in visiting Kuwait, but Britain worked against the visit and prevented any agreement between Iraq and Kuwait.

In April 1938, Tawfiq al-Suwaydi, the then Iraqi foreign minister, informed the British ambassador in Baghdad, Mr. Peterson, [name as received] that the Ottoman-British agreement of 1913 recognizes Kuwait as a district belonging to al-Basrah province. The transfer of sovereignty from the Ottoman state to the Iraqi state must have meant Iraq's sovereignty over Kuwait, as stated in the 1913 agreement. Iraq did not recognize any change in Kuwait's status after that time.

In Kuwait, Kuwaiti youths moved to promote the return of Kuwait to Iraq. In May, 1938, a group of free Kuwaitis submitted an appeal to the Iraqi Government urging that it meet their demand of the return of Kuwait to Iraq. To advance that goal, a national bloc was formed. It called upon the then Shaykh of Kuwait, Ahmad al-Sabah, to create a legislative council representing the free of Kuwait, a demand he met against his will. At the first session of the said council in 1938, its members demanded the return of Kuwait to Iraq, something its ruler did not like. So on 21 December, 1938, he announced its dissolution, and then had its members detained and persecuted.

And yet, the free of Kuwait continued to press for a return to Iraq. They sent many cables to King Ghazi, one—broadcast in Baghdad on 7 March, 1939—appealing for his intervention. It literally read: Our history favors the annexation of Kuwait to Iraq. We live and die under the Iraqi flag. Ghazi: Come to the aid of your brethren in Kuwait.

Things reached the point where on 10 March, 1939, Kuwait's youths set off a massive uprising against the ruling authority. The ruler of Kuwait quelled the uprising by the force of arms and jailed a large number of those who took part in it.

King Ghazi tried to intervene to secure their release, and warned the shaykh of Kuwait about the continued victimization of the free of Kuwait.

King Ghazi and the then Iraqi Government came under intense British pressure to cease pressing for the return of Kuwait. The British ambassador in Baghdad Peterson held several secret sessions with King Ghazi shortly before the latter's death to pressure him into discontinuing the claims on Kuwait. A while later, on the night of 5 April, King Ghazi was killed in a mysterious accident, which goes to show that Britain was behind his murder, and that his enthusiasm for incorporating Kuwait into Iraq was one of the reasons behind his liquidation.

After King Ghazi's assassination, Britain's supporters gained power in Iraq, and then World War II broke out. The subsequent years witnessed events and changes in Iraq and the region, including the creation of the Zionist entity in Palestine, the Arab-Israeli war, and the Egyptian revolution. The British colonialists exploited these developments to entrench themselves in Kuwait and to sever its human and political ties with Iraq.

On 9 March 1956, when Selwyn Lloyd, former British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs,

visited Baghdad to attend the consultative meeting of the Permanent Baghdad Pact Council, Prime Minister Nuri al-Sa'id raised the issue of admitting Kuwait to the Arab Union, which was to be established between Iraq and Jordan. He promised to brief the British cabinet on the issue. The reply came through British Ambassador to Iraq Michael Wright that Britain was ready to grant independence to Kuwait and that Kuwait had the right to determine the issue of joining the union. To leave no choice for Britain, Iraq sent its Deputy Prime Minister Tawfiq al-Suwaydi to Shtawrah in Lebanon in April 1957 where Kuwait's Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah was staying. The two held negotiations on the need for Kuwait to join the awaited union, but this did not lead to any results.

In early 1958, Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Sa'id affirmed to the Baghdad Pact the need to annex Kuwait to Iraq, during a meeting attended by Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, and Britain. It was also attended by U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles as an observer. Nuri al-Sa'id did not succeed because of Britain's opposition.

After the establishment of the Arab Union between Iraq and Jordan in 14 February 1958, King Faysal II, Prime Minister Nuri al-Sa'id, and Arab Union Foreign Minister Tawfiq al-Suwaydi raised with Selwyn Lloyd the issue of admitting Kuwait to the Arab Union but the British also rejected that.

When Kuwaiti Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah visited Baghdad on 10 May 1958, Iraqi King Faysal II and Prime Minister Nuri al-Sa'id raised with him the issue of Kuwait joining the Arab Union. But the shaykh said that he had to consult the British over this issue.

On 5 June 1958, the government of the Arab Union presented a secret memorandum to the British Embassy in Baghdad explaining Kuwait's international status before World War I. The memorandum said that Kuwait was a land under the sovereignty of the Ottoman state from the point of view of the international law. It was a district belonging to al-Basrah province. This sovereignty was not a source of doubt or dispute, whether by the British or the local Kuwaiti authorities. Indeed, the British Government implicitly recognized this through the Ottoman-British agreement, signed in London on 29 July 1913. The sixth clause of the agreement says that the Shaykh of Kuwait is entitled to exercise administrative powers in his capacity as an Ottoman district officer reporting to al-Basrah province.

The memorandum also reviewed Kuwait's status after the war. It said: As a result of post-war settlements, Turkey gave up all the Arab provinces that had been under the Ottoman rule. Those included the three provinces that made up the Kingdom of Iraq, one of which was the province of al-Basrah, of which Kuwait was a district. But Kuwait's international status remained vague during the British occupation of Iraq and Britain's mandate and actual authority over the country. Under those circumstances, it was only natural for Iraq, which was not free to run its foreign affairs, not to be committed to any arrangements or settlements by the British authorities concerning Kuwait, especially the deprivation of Iraq of the territorial waters of al-Basrah province, which was under the Ottoman rule.

Before Iraq joined the League of Nations, the Iraqi Government raised the issue of the Iraq-Kuwait border with the British authority. It demanded return of the islands within the aforementioned territorial waters, and definition of the land border justly and fairly. However, those legitimate demands were not met because the British government presented a text of a 1913 agreement between it and the Ottoman government containing, among other things, clauses on the protection of the Shaykh of Kuwait, and defining Kuwait's border as they currently exist.

It later became clear, however, that the agreement had not been concluded, and that it failed to gain legality and legitimacy.

The last attempt by the Iraqi Government to restore the islands within Iraq's territorial waters and define the land border was made when it discussed the issue with the British Government during the talks on the Baghdad Charter and the termination of the Iraqi-British treaty. The two sides failed to reach agreement.

The memorandum touched on the importance of Kuwait for Iraq. It dealt with how Iraq had an interest in ending the wide-scale smuggling activities through Kuwait and in tackling the great burdens encountered in establishing security in the southern areas that are adjacent to Kuwait. This was because Kuwait became a refuge for criminals who fled from justice not only from Iraq but also from the other neighboring countries. The memorandum also discussed the importance of finding a maritime outlet for Iraq on the Arabian Gulf to avoid economic losses that had befallen Iraq, and finally to tackle the activities that are hostile to Iraq after Kuwait had become a center for hostile propaganda seeking to destabilize security in Iraq.

The memorandum suggested two solutions; the first to have Kuwait join the Arab Union which was established between Iraq and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the second states that if the British Government believes that Kuwait's joining the Union is not possible at the present time, then the government of the Arab Union will find itself compelled to announce that all the islands within the territorial waters will be considered as being within the boundaries of the Arab Union, and that the line of the land borders between the Union and Kuwait begins from the point of convergence of Wadi al'Awja with Wadi al-Batin and proceeds eastward in a direct line until it reaches al-Jahrah on the Gulf of Kuwait. It will be agreed that the Arab Union goverment will recognize all the existing oil concessions with their present conditions. With respect to the area that is

exploited by the oil companies and the financial arrangements that have resulted from this among the various parties, they will remain as they are with the exception of what the Union government may need to meet its urgent financial needs.

The memorandum expressed hope that the British Government will be able to advise the shaykh of Kuwait to choose one of the two solutions that is best for him as quickly as possible. If he chooses the first solution, there will be a need to discuss the issue of borders, but if he chooses the second solution concerning the borders, then the Arab Union government will be ready to conclude a treaty of friendship and good neighborliness with him.

The memorandum represented the last stand of the royalist regime which ruled Iraq after the establishment of the state of modern Iraq and until the 14 July 1958 revolution; a regime which was known as being one of the staunchest allies of the West. The Iraqi Government and the government of the Arab Union became convinced that Britain had been behind the obstacles that prevented the realization of this objective. This led to tense British-Iraqi relations and to Iraq's stepping up its efforts and pressure on Britain. The Iraqi Government prepared a memorandum that was substantiated by documents and arguments on the need for Kuwait to join the Arab Union. It had been decided to publish this memorandum on 12 July 1958. But the British asmbassador asked to postpone the publication of the memorandum and informed the Arab Union Foreign Minister Tawfiq al-Suwaydi of Britian's principled acceptance of the idea of Kuwait's joining the Arab Union. The details of this would be studied at a meeting to be held in London on 24 July 1958 between the prime minister and the foreign minister in the Arab Union on the one hand, and the British prime minister and his foreign minister on the other. However, the eruption of the 14 July 1958 revolution in Iraq prevented this meeting from taking place.

In 1961, Britain decided to grant independence to Kuwait. Thereupon, on 25 June, 1961, the then Iraqi prime minister declared at a press conference that Iraq regarded Kuwait an integral part of its territory, and that it does not recognize the special relationship agreement between Britain and Kuwait, signed on 19 June, 1961 by the Shaykh of Kuwait, 'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, and the British Political Resident in the Gulf M. G. Mead. Following the announcement, Britain mobilized its forces against Iraq.

The mistake made by Iraq's then Foreign Minister Hashim Jawad in walking out of an Arab League Council session, had provided Kuwait with the chance to become a League member. This is because for a new state to join the Arab League, it had to win membership by a unanimous vote.

On 21 July, 1961 the Iraqi Foreign Ministry issued a statement which viewed the League's Decision No. 1777/35 whereby Kuwait was accepted as an Arab League member as a flagrant violation of the League's charter which requires a unanimous vote. Iraq views the decision as null and void and believes that Kuwait is an integral part of Iraq, and that it is seeking the retrieval of this part by all legitimate means, the statement also said.

The Kuwaiti regime's bids between 1961 and late 1963 to gain UN membership came to nought.

In late 1963, following the collapse of the political regime that had been in office in Iraq from July, 1958 to February, 1963, the prime minister of the Government of Kuwait visited Baghdad under turbulent political circumstances in Iraq. A joint statement taking note of the 1932 correspondence was issued. However, the Revolutionary Command's National Council—as the highest legislative authority in Iraq—and in accordance with the provisional constitution of 1963, did not endorse the said statement.

It becomes clear from this historical outline that none of the successive Iraqi governments has ever acquiesced in slicing off any piece of Iraqi territory, nor has it signed any border treaty. Nor has any constitutional law been issued in Iraq prescribing these borders.

That was the state of affairs that prevailed at the time of the 1968 17-30 July Revolution. The revolutionary government, upon the instructions of President Saddam Husayn, has been eager to pursue a settlement to this problem, whereby a fair measure of Iraq's historical rights are met, and a part—albeit limited—of the wrong inflicted upon it since the beginning of the century is removed.

In the seventies, it was Iraq that took the initiative and approached the rulers of Kuwait to find such a settlement. However, encouraged by their foreign allies, they insisted that Iraq should accept the measures imposed by the British colonialists. In 1972 and 1973, the foreign minister of Iraq visited Kuwait City to raise the issue. The Iraqi interior minister also visited Kuwait City on the same mission on 16 May, 1978, and committees were set up, with neither effort yielding any result.

This issue was not further discussed because war broke out between Iraq and Iran. However, immediately after the liberation of al-Faw and during the Algiers summit conference in May 1988, the Iraqi foreign minister conveyed to the Kuwaiti counterpart Iraq's sincere wish to resolve this issue. But the strange thing was that the authority in Kuwait did not respond promptly to this wish and did not reply to Iraq's offer until July 1988, when the Kuwaiti foreign minister visited Iraq and an agreement was reached to discuss the issue by the two foreign ministers.

Talks between the two ministers were delayed because Iraqi-Iranian talks had begun earlier and the Iraqi foreign minister was engaged in these talks. It was decided, therefore, to send the vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] to Kuwait city on 6 December 1988 to urge the authority there to discuss the issue once

again. It was agreed to hold talks between the RCC vice chairman and the Kuwaiti heir apparent.

Sa'd al-'Abdallah visited Baghdad on 6 February 1989 in response to the visit made by the RCC vice chairman, and it was clear that Sa'd al-'Abdallah was not willing to consider Iraq's legitimate demands, not even the minimum demands.

On 27 March 1989, Minister Sa'ud al-'Usaymi made a visit to Baghdad during which he asked officially to postpone the discussion of the issue. During the visit of the Shaykh of Kuwait to Baghdad in September 1989, President Saddam Husayn once again proposed discussing the issue, and it was agreed to follow up on the issue between Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Sa'dun Hammadi and the Kuwaiti foreign minister. Indeed, Dr. Sa'dun Hammadi visited Kuwait city on 19 November 1989 to discuss it. The former Kuwaiti foreign minister, however, did not reciprocate the visit until February 1990.

It is worth noting here that the shaykhs of Kuwait had taken advantage of the period during which the issue was pending and capitalized on Iraq's preoccupation with its domestic problems and the affairs of the region, the last of which was the Iraq-Iran war that lasted eight years, which they used to bolster their territorial advancement northward by establishing police stations, military installations, schools, and oil facilities. In 1963, for instance, the crossing point from Kuwait city to al-Basrah was al-Mitla'. The passports issued by the Kuwaiti Government used to be stamped there for departure, and we are enclosing photos of these. This crossing point, however, was moved more than 70 km northward to impose an established fact on Iraq, which was then preoccupied with domestic affairs and regional problems.

The above clarified historical and geographical facts decisively prove that Iraq never accepted at any time in the past any formula to define [tahdid] the borders, nor did it agree on any way to demarcate [tarsim] them. This was not an arbitrary decision, especially since it is based on an objective fact; namely, that the formula for defining the border as well as the British interpretations and efforts which were made to demarcate it on this basis encroach on Iraq's territorial rights and legitimate interests. These rights and interests are in full harmony with the historical and geographical facts. This objective fact explains the integrity of Iraq's position, which was adopted by all political regimes in Iraq, and which has continued as it is without any change. Based on this, from the very beginning, the commission's decisions, which were made within the context of imposing the border issue on Iraq, in accordance with a sketch that was drawn in advance, lack any basis and are void of any evidence.

Your excellency, after this review of historical and geographical facts, and of the work of the commission you have appointed, it becomes very clear to any neutral observer that the decisions adopted by the commission during its meetings in New York from 8 to 16 April 1992 are purely political decisions imposed by the powers which are now controlling the UN Security Council and the United Nations, particularly the U.S. and British Governments.

The clear political objective of this decision is not only to deprive Iraq of its historical and geographical rights and to harm its vital interests, but it also constitutes a premeditated attempt to create an illegitimate, illogical, and unpleasant situation to endanger the vital interests of a deep-rooted people on which an ordeal was imposed on them by force and political blackmail. This is also an attempt to create an atmosphere of chaos, confusion, and instability in the region. The United States and Britain, who are behind this decision, seek to maintain this atmosphere in order to justify the continued presence of their military bases and armed forces in the region in a state of continuous occupation so as to continue to blackmail the Kuwaiti regime and the other regimes in the region, and to plunder the region's oil resources.

Any endorsement by the UN Security Council of this unjust decision, which has been premeditatedly made by two UN Security Council permanent member states, constitutes a serious precedent, and conflicts, in terms of essence, results, and duties, with the responsibilities the UN Charter bestows on the UN Security Council. If the Council endorses this decision, it will not have contributed to entrenching security and stability in the region, but will have premeditatedly created a permanent hotbed of tension, and harmed the legitimate and vital interests of a UN member state. If there are difficult circumstances which impose that the Iraqi authorities adopt certain stands toward such a decision, the people of Iraq will never accept that their historical rights have been respected or their vital interests have been taken into consideration by the UN Security Council as recognized by the rules of the international law and the criteria of justice and fairness. Moreover, the Arab nation will continue to view this decision as another link in the chain of the Western colonialist games which began during and after World War I, which aroused and still arouses the anger and indignation of the Arab nation, and which created many changes and disturbances in the entire Arab world. The history of the world has witnessed examples similar to what is currently taking place, and the world is aware of the consequences.

Concluding this letter, I would like to emphasize that this is not only our own conclusion, it is the conclusion reached by many wise people in the world and in our region.

Allow me on this occasion to cite some material published by Arab and foreign press on this issue.

In an article published by THE WASHINGTON POST on 5 May 1992, Carl Murphy cited an official as saying: "...I think that Kuwait should study this issue if it wants to maintain its borders. The two parties can, however, agree on another line for other reasons." The writer of

the article also cites Fred Halliday, an expert on international relations at the London School of Economics, as commenting on the current situation: "We have the seeds of another war. I cannot see any way in which any Iraqi government can support this demarcation by the United Nations." The article also cites the head of the Demarcation Commission Mukhtar Kusumatomja as saying: "The mission assigned to us in accordance with the resolution stipulates demarcation not fixing..., and that only states can fix borders." The article also mentions that "even old documents show that these borders have absolutely not been peaceful." Mr. Ian Brook, member of the commission, is also cited as saying: "...the strongest arguments were between British and British...", pointing to the letters that were exchanged when Kuwait was administered by the British Indian administration and Iraq was under the control of the administration of colonies.

In another article under the headline "The Time Bomb of Umm Qasr," in the MIDDLE EAST INTERNATIONAL magazine on 6 March 1992, G.J. Janson wrote: "Giving Umm Qasr to Kuwait by the UN commission can only be explained as an example of the U.S. campaign of punishment against Iraq, and U.S. officials were earlier cited as saying that they will insist on respecting the new border as the southern border of Iraq. [no end quote as received]

The writer of the article adds: "...the United Nations has produced a time bomb that can only be defused by the Security Council siding with justice and rejecting the findings of the commission, when it is submitted to it in April."

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL also published an article on 5 December 1991 under the headline "United Nations Hires Secret Detective to Find Iraq-Kuwait Border," in which the writer reviews in detail the role of the British expert of the representative of Kuwait in investigating the Safwan border point, which we have discussed, by saying: "Some experts warn that such a settlement (the UN settlement) could plant the seeds of a future conflict, given that Iraq has only one vote at the commission and cannot prevent this.

The article also cites Mr. Richard Scowfield, deputy director of the Research Center of Geopolitics and International Borders in London, as saying: "The old problem of Iraq's arrival [wusul] in the Gulf will remain that Iraq has absolutely not felt that it can live with this, and perhaps it will not be able to do so in the future."

The British newspaper THE FINANCIAL TIMES published an article on 19 February 1992 as follows: "The joint border is ultimately an issue of mutual consent. U.S. officials say, however, that they will insist that the new border be respected as Iraq's new southern border."

In an article on 20 April 1992 under the headline "The New Border Demarcation Between Iraq and Kuwait Raises Serious Problems," the French newspaper LE MONDE says: "The base and port of Umm Qasr, which are located at the entrance of Khawr al-Zubayr in Iraq, northwest of the Gulf, and which are now threatened, are but part of the giant structures Iraq has constructed in this area for development purposes. They include shipyards and petrochemical, steel, liquefied gas, and fertilizer plants. In addition, in 1990 canals were dug to allow for the entry of large tankers from the Gulf. This region was given top priority after the end of war with Iran, especially since it can compensate for the al-Basrah Port on the Shatt al-'Arab, which was blocked by the remnants of the war with Iran. The border demarcation will ruin these huge facilities. The paper adds: However, away from the technical work of the Demarcation Commission and the political considerations, some voices began to call for respecting the two countries' interests in order to avoid future conflicts."

In its 18-19 April 1992 issue, the newspaper AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI says: "Observers believe that the commission's decision will primarily lay a strong basis for problems between the two countries rather than finding solutions to them."

In an article published in the Jordanian newspaper AL-RA'Y on 19 April 1992, Tariq Masarwah says: "During the recent meetings of the commission on the demarcation of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border, the commission discovered that Kuwait has territory in Iraq. This territory includes the entire al-Rumaylah oil field, and three-quarters of the Umm Qasr Port, which is Iraq's only access to the Gulf, and whose development was very costly. The objective of the UN commission is same as the British objective at the al-'Aqir negotiations, where they negotiated on behalf of the "protectorate of Kuwait," Iraq, and Saudi Arabia, and at which they agreed among themselves to isolate Iraq. Otherwise, why was Bubiyan Island given to Kuwait when we all know that Kuwait's population at that time was less than 10,000. What is significant now is that the party in charge of demarcating the border between Iraq and Kuwait is the UN commission. Of course, this is a committee whose work and results are decided by the United States and Britain. If isolating Iraq from the world was required at the al-'Aqir negotiations in the twenties, then what is required now is to implant everlasting hostility between Iraq and Kuwait whether or not the political regime in Iraq or Kuwait changes."

In an article in the Jordanian newspaper AL-DUSTUR on 19 April 1992, Muhammad Dawudiyah said: "Encroachment on Iraq's territory could simply mean planting highly flammable explosives in inter-Arab relations and blocking all roads to reason and wisdom." The writer wonders: "How can the Iraqi citizen disregard this exposed aggression against his territory, and the closure of the Shatt al-'Arab and the Arabian Gulf outlets to Iraq?"

In an article on 19 April 1992 under the headline "Beware the Sedition of the Commission on the Demarcation of Iraqi-Kuwaiti Border," the Jordanian newspaper SAWT AL-SHA'B says: "It seems that the United

States and its allies insist on continuing to implant the seeds of Arab divisions and conflicts, and on creating justifications and pretexts for devastating wars to weaken the parties to these wars on the political, security, economic, and all other levels, and to make them captive to the U.S. and Western interference to settle their conflicts. Otherwise, what is the objective behind having the UN commission on the demarcation of Iraqi-Kuwaiti border give Kuwait part of the Iraqi city of Umm Qasr and move the border back 600 meters for a distance of 200 km in favor of Kuwait?

The article goes on to say: Exploiting Iraq's difficult conditions to encroach on its rights and sovereignty over its territory, or attempting to seize or usurp part of this territory through deriving force from Iraq's enemies or enemies of the Arab nation is like playing with fire, and may be far more dangerous. So beware of the causes of discord which the enemies of our nation are sowing in order to incite wars among brothers.

In a news analysis by Dr. Sa'd Abu-Diyah, published in the Jordanian paper SAWT AL-SHA'B, the writer says: In my view, this demarcation, which is unacceptable to both parties, will remain the time bomb it has been in the past.

He added: To sum up, through its decision, the committee has participated in fuelling the conflict anew, and the Iraqi citizen will continue to feel that much injustice has been done to him by the border demarcation.

Under the headline "Heating Arab Borders..Why Now?" Dr. Nabil al-Sharif writes an article in AL-DUSTUR, on 21 April 1992, saying: We begin with the subject of border demarcation between Iraq and Kuwait which has been designed in a way that makes its liable to explosion at any time in the future.

It is illogical to give Iraqi land to Kuwait and to deny Iraq access to any water outlet. Those who accepted this unjust border demarcation have not contributed to resolving the border problem between the two countries, but rather they kept the problem alive like an inflamed furuncle. They should have been more farsighted in order to guarantee for themselves and for the Arab future generations a secure life in a spirit of fraternity and good-neighborly relations.

Iraq, which is deeply-rooted in history, will never disappear from the map, and the foreign forces will not stay in this part of the world forever. It is clear, therefore, that the trend which used to inflame the Arab borders has won.

Concluding, this writer says: The Arab borders did not ignite without reason. It was done in order to entrench the deteriorating Arab situation, and to increase fear and attachment to the U.S. defender, especially since most of the borders that caught fire are in the Gulf and the peninsula, where there is oil needed by the United States now and in the future.

In a report from Kuwait by AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI on 21 April 1992, a diplomat was quoted as saying: In the short run, there is nothing that the Iraqis can do other than complain. In the long run, it will remain as dangerous as a time bomb in the relations between the two countries. The danger will continue to exist.

In the same vein, Muhammad 'Uthman began his column "This Morning" in AL-AHRAM AL-DAWLI on 22 April 1992 by saying: The new border recently demarcated between Iraq and Kuwait can be nothing short of a time bomb that is waiting to explode sooner or later.

On 23 April 1992, the Jordanian newspaper AKBAR AL-USBU' comments on the border disputes in the Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf. It says these disputes are a tribal heritage that were fuelled by the oil revolution and oil wealth. These differences have been entrenched by the foreign companies that were supported by the British occupation of parts of the peninsula and the Gulf's two coastal strips as far as Iraq, which was occupied early in the 20th century.

The paper adds that Britain, as a protector country, felt that it was difficult to control the tribes so it decided to contain them within entities in which it sowed fear to facilitate controlling them. Furthermore, it provided these tribes with open maps that could become destructive factors for any pan-Arab unity in the future.

Concluding, the paper says: This painful situation is being lived by the Arabian peninsula. Perhaps the most prominent event in this regard was what happened on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border where the United Nations interfered and usurped al-Rumaylah oil field and Umm Qasr port in accordance with British maps, and in an attempt to undermine Iraq and further aggravate the situation in the region.

Under the headline "Depending on British Maps, the United Nations Adopted a Resolution Dividing the Arabian Gulf" the Jordanian newspaper AL-RA'Y says on 24 April 1992: It is not the first time that the United Nations depends on British maps in order to destroy political entities and divide peoples who struggled for their unity and for preserving their national entities.

After referring to Palestine, the newspaper tackles the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border issue and says: The UN resolution on defining the border between the two countries will make them feuding peoples in a permanent state of hostility for several generations with UN blessing, especially since Umm Qasr and al-Rumaylah oil fields have been Iraqi ever since Iraq came into existence and before the presence of the British colonialism in the Gulf.

The policy of divide and rule is not new for Britain and its maps—a policy which lived for decades on our Arab land. But the danger is that this policy is creeping to the United Nations, which has started implementing it,

emphasizing that this international establishment has actually become the American nations rather than the United Nations.

In an editorial by its chief editor 'Abd-al-Latif al-Furati on 26 April 1992, the Tunisian newspaper AL-SABAH says: It is important that a Kuwaiti-Iraqi position rejects the resolution because border demarcation between any two countries cannot be valid without the acceptance of both sides. Otherwise, any borders that are demarcated against the will of either of them will be a time bomb that may go off at any time. In addition to this, any agreement whatever it may be, should be based on justice and on the previous historic situation.

Please accept our regards.

[signed] Ahmad Husayn, foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq

Baghdad, May 1992

Border Decision 'Dangerous Precedent'

JN0106114692 Baghdad INA in English 1215 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, June 1, INA—Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn has disproved the resolutions adopted by the borders demarcation committee between Iraq and Kuwait saying they represent a dangerous precedent in the history of the international organization.

A message addressed by Mr Husayn to the U.N. Secretary General Dr Butrus Ghali today said that the resolutions taken by the committee were pure political decision imposed by the powers dominating the Security Council and the United Nations especially the United States and Britain.

The Iraqi foreign minister said the clear-cut political purpose drawn out from this decision was only depriving Iraq from its geographical and historical rights and extending harm to its vital interests by insisting on creating an illegal and unlogical condition and also a situation arousing indignation and threat to the vital interests of people suffering from a dilemma imposed on them by armed force and political blackmail. The minister further pointed out that this will also create an atmosphere of dissatisfaction, turmoil and instability in the entire region.

The Iraqi foreign minister further said that this is the kind of climate wanted by owners of that decision (the United States and Britain) for keeping the entire region at their disposal to justify maintaining their military bases and armed forces as a permanent occupation state and to continue blackmailing the regime of Kuwait and other regimes in the region in addition to plundering the oil riches of the region.

The Iraqi foreign minister added that any endorsement by the Security Council of the committee's oppressive resolutions and which are purposely forced by two of its permanent members represents a grave precedent and contradicts in essence and results the duties and obligations of the Security Council Charter.

The minister said that in case of endorsing those resolutions, the Security Council would not have contributed to boosting security and stability in the region but would have rather contributed to creating a hotbed of permanant tension and extending premeditated harm to the vital and legitimate interests of a UN member state. The minister further said that if there were force majeur that make Iraqi authorities adopt certain stances vis-a-vis such decision, the Iraqi people could not be convinced that their historical rights were respected and their vital interests were taken into consideration by the Security Council as dictated by principles of international law and standards of justice and fairness.

The minister stressed that the Arab nation would remain viewing this resolution as a link in the chain of the Western imperialist manoeuvering which had started during and after the first world war and which was and still is a source of condemnation and indignation by the Arab nation because it had caused changes and disturbances in the entire Arab homeland.

Saddam Congratulates 'Arafat on 'Successful Surgery'

JN0106185492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jun (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat on the occasion of the successful surgery he underwent in a hospital in Amman today.

In the cable, the president said: We have followed with concern the health problem you have suffered, and we are glad to hear that the surgery was successful.

We wish your excellency speedy recovery so that you will continue to lead the heroic Arab Palestinian people in their march of jihad and faith toward the restoration of their full rights, God willing.

Saudi-Israeli Contact on Mosque Restoration Cited

JN3005190692 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 27 May 92 p 1

[Excerpt] Paris/London—AL-JUMHURIYAH: A Zionist spokesman has disclosed that a senior adviser working for the so-called "Islamic World League" in holy Mecca has met with the president of the Zionist entity, Hayim Herzog, in occupied Jerusalem as an emissary from [King] Fahd. According to press sources in Paris and London, the "adviser," named "Shaykh Ishaq Idris Sakhkhutah," arrived in occupied Jerusalem a few days ago on behalf of a Saudi society called "the Islamic World League," which is funded and directed by Riyadh. "Sakhkhutah," add the sources, has been empowered to discuss the Dome of the Rock issue with the Zionist authorities. He carried a proposal to enlist the support of Tel Aviv for the formation of a committee

chaired by Husni Mubarak. A sum of $10 million will be placed at the disposal of the committee for the restoration of the Dome of the Rock.

Herzog received "Monsieur Sakhkhutah," who explained to his Zionist host the "League's" proposal as follows: "We do not trust the restoration committee, which receives instructions from Jordan, or the PLO. We would rather initiate joint cooperation outside the Islamic Awqaf. We have learned from past experience, when our hard-earned funds and contributions just evaporated. Believers, your excellency the president, are once bitten twice shy." [passage omitted]

Yemeni Minister Condemns 'Iniquitous' Embargo

JN2905191192 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1831 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—Muhammad Ahmad Sulayman, Yemeni minister of housing and urban planning, has condemned the iniquitous embargo on the women, children, and elderly of Iraq.

In an interview screened by Iraqi television tonight, the Yemeni minister called the sanctions resolution unjust. It is aimed at the entire Arab nation, he added.

The restoration effort in the aftermath of the 30-state aggression adds up to a defeat for all the enemies of Iraq and the Arabs, he emphasized.

Sulayman restated the Yemeni masses' support for the Iraqi people as they tackle the blockade. No fair-minded nation on earth, he added, will acquiesce in a blockade targeting women, children, and the elderly.

U.S. Maintaining Blockade Out of 'Bitterness'

JN3005082692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0704 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that the United States and its allies have shown themselves to be nursing big delusions and drooling over a mirage in their determination to maintain the economic blockade and use it as a bargaining chip, even though it has proved to be a failed one.

In an editorial published today, the paper adds: Washington has chosen to ignore all this. Its determination to maintain the blockade is because it is feeling defeat and bitterness over its inability to achieve its lowly political objectives and aggressive ambitions through its direct military aggression.

The paper goes on to say: The motive for maintaining the blockade, although the justifications and pretexts for its enforcement no longer exist, has become clear and well known to the enlightened world public.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that the United States has ignored all the appeals made by humanitarian organizations and the international reports on the Iraqi people's suffering as a result of the blockade and the injustice meted out against them.

The paper notes that Iraq was not surprised by the decision to maintain the blockade, and that it expected this position from the United States and its allies. The paper says that this decision was dictated on the subservient Security Council, which merely obeys the orders of the White House.

AL-JUMHURIYAH asserts that the Iraqis have chosen to walk the path of defiance and adopt a position that befits a people of ancient civilization through their immense determination to pass the test, cope with this dangerous phase, and thwart the enemies' wagers.

The paper reiterates that "they will walk this path to confront the conspiracy, break the unfair blockade, and thwart enemy schemes."

British Medicine Shipment Arrives in Baghdad

JN3005120192 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May (INA)—A consignment of medicines donated by the British Red Cross to the Iraqi Red Crescent Society arrived in Baghdad yesterday.

Dr. Sa'dun Khalifah, chairman of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society, said that the medicines will be used to treat various illnesses from which Iraqi children, women, and elderly are suffering due to the continuing unjust economic and medicine blockade imposed by the United States and its NATO allies.

4,500 Pilgrims Leave for Hajj to Saudi Arabia

JN3005130292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May (INA)—Four thousand five hundred citizens left for the holy lands today to perform the pilgrimage. This is the first batch of pilgrims to leave for the holy lands.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs had earlier authorized 13 private sector companies to transport the pilgrims to the holy lands this year so that they may provide the best and most wide-ranging services to citizens who want to perform the pilgrimage.

Kurdish Parliament To Meet 3 Jun in Irbil

NC0206112292 Paris AFP in English 1104 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Ankara, June 2 (AFP) - A newly-elected Kurdish parliament will hold its inaugural session on Wednesday in Irbil, Iraqi Kurdistan, Kurdish sources said here

Tuesday. The 105-seat assembly is the product of elections held May 19 among Kurds in northern Iraq, where they live under an allied security umbrella based in southern Turkey.

The vote left the two principal Kurdish parties, the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) under Mas'ud Barzani and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) under Jalal Talabani, with 50 seats each. The five remaining seats were reserved for deputies from the northern Iraqi Christian community, who also took part in the elections. Barzani and Talabani are to face one another in a run-off election next month for the Kurdish leadership, as none of them secured a 51 percent majority in the first round.

The parliament's first task will be to form an executive body, divided equally among representatives from the DPK and the PUK, that should begin operations by the middle of June.

Barzani, Talabani Congratulated on Elections

JN2905165692 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1425 GMT 29 May 92

[Excerpt] Strugglers Mas'ud Barzani and Jalal Talabani have received more cables and letters of congratulations on the success of the Kurdistan National Council elections and the joint cooperation agreement reached between our Democratic Party of Kurdistan and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

The following is an example of these cables:

To the strugglers, Mas'ud Barzani and Jalal Talabani.

On the occasion of forming the Kurdistan National Council, we extend warmest congratulations to the two political bureaus of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, to the other parties in the Kurdistan Front, and to the Kurdish people. We hope that this will help to strengthen the ranks of the Kurdistan Front, particularly the two fraternal parties—the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan and the Democratic Party of Kurdistan—with the aim of establishing peace, democracy, and human rights in all of Kurdistan.

[Signed] Jundi Sa'id Khalid, secretary general for culture and youth

[Dated] 24 May 1992 [passage omitted]

Rebels Attack Government Outpost in Maysan

NC2905153592 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1325 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With the help of almighty God, and with the devotion of the courageous sons of the blessed uprising, a Saddamist post [words indistinct] in the al-Sa'idiyah area of ('Ali al-Mardi) district in Maysan governorate was attacked last night.

A number of armored vehicles and one tank were destroyed and several light and medium caliber weapons were captured in the bold attack by the mujahidin groups. A number of Saddamist mercenaries were killed in this operation, including the first lieutenant commanding the post and one of his aides.

The operation was in retaliation for the provocations by Saddamist remnants against our kinsfolk in the south.

'Bestial Bombardments' in Marshlands Continue

NC2905165492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Warplanes of the outcast tyrant continue to bombard the marshlands in the al-'Amarah Governorate forcing thousands of citizens to flee their homes.

A statement issued in London yesterday by the Committee in Defense of Central and Southern Iraq says that the areas of [words indistinct] in al-'Amarah Governorate were the scenes of fierce clashes. The statement stressed that the forces of tyrant Saddam Husayn have forced the citizens of the region to stay outdoors without food or medication and have arrested 30 from nearby areas.

The statement urged the world public and all the United Nations and humanitarian bodies to condemn the terrorist practices of Saddam's regime and to support the victims of the tyrant's vicious military campaign. It also asks the agencies to do whatever is necessary to prevent the authorities of the outcast tyrant from oppressing the civilians and to force the regime to implement UN Security Council Resolution 688.

In a similar statement, the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] says that scores of marshland inhabitants are falling victim every day as a result of the tyrant's bombardment of these areas. The statement said that the outcast tyrant has sent his aircraft to the area to cover up the defeats inflicted on him by the determination and will of the sons of the southern marshlands.

The SAIRI statement, which was distributed in London yesterday, indicated that the forces of the outcast tyrant will regroup their ranks and initiate new military operations against the southern marshlands. SAIRI sources say that two days ago, two MiG-21's bombed homes in the area for 20 minutes. They added that the bestial bombardment destroyed scores of houses and killed a number of women and children.

Regime Using Crop Dusters to Bomb Kurdish Rebels

NC2905193192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution Radio in Arabic 1551 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Every day Saddam's regime resorts to new methods to attack innocent people. The regime's latest innovation is to drop small bombs from crop-dusting planes.

Our sources say that these planes are conducting constant patrols over the towns of [place names indistinct] under the guise of spraying orchards with insecticide. They are actually dropping small bombs. The regime realizes that the peshmergas are using these orchards as bases to launch heroic operations against the regime's hirelings and executioners from the Ba'th Party and the intelligence services.

Minister: Use Checks To Avoid Forged Currency

JN3005122292 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic 27 May 92 p 5

[Interview with Minister of Finance Ja'far 'Abd Majid by an unidentified reporter; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-'IRAQ] The citizens are complaining about the 50-dinar banknote. They are saying that some people, including a number of government departments, do not accept it.

[Majid] This problem will be solved soon, and we are capable of solving it.

[AL-'IRAQ] Hasn't the time now come? What is the solution?

The minister refused to answer or explain but he repeated his first answer. [passage omitted]

[AL'IRAQ] We told the minister that everybody is blaming the Finance Ministry for the problem of counterfeit currency and for not enlightening the citizens?

[Majid] I do not appear on television to say that the valid currency is the one which bears such and such a thing. By doing so, I would be telling the counterfeiters what to do to master their job. I work for enlightenment at banks because they are the filters. What is important is that we are working under an unjust siege, and whoever works under these conditions operates within the framework of what is possible. Money is one of the very sensitive issues which is governed by law and whose acceptance is subject to this law. We encourage dealing with checks in order to avoid the problem of counterfeit currency, and also the problem of carrying money. Using checks is a flexible process that spares the check-holder many risks.

3 Terminals at al-Bakr Port Repaired, Operational

JN3005135692 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 May 92 p 1

[By Hadi Masir al-Rubay'i]

[Excerpts] Through their relentless work and great resolve, the technical and engineering staff at the South Petroleum Company, the al-Mashari' Oil Company, the Military Industrialization Commission's Ibn-Majid project, and experts from the Ports Authority and other maritime departments have managed to repair three out of the four terminals at the al-Bakr Port. It is thus now ready to supply oil tankers with crude oil for export.

This was stated to AL-THAWRAH by Staff Major General Fa'iz 'Abdallah Shahin, under secretary at the Oil Ministry. [passage omitted]

The Oil Ministry under secretary said: The national will has been exemplified in the operations to repair this vital outlet. After UN Security Council Resolutions 706 and 712 concerning the export of Iraqi oil were issued, we found ourselves driven into a tight corner. Political pressures were exercised against us to force us to export our oil via Turkey only. There also were attempts to blackmail us by doubling the fees levied on the transport of oil. We took the initiative, exerted efforts, and used our own resources to repair the al-Bakr Port and [export oil via] oil tankers.

'Arafat Condition 'More Serious' Than Reported

TA0206081592 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Jun 92 p A1

[Report by Eytan Rabin, Gay Bekhor, and news agencies]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Israeli sources doubt the upbeat reports coming from Jordan about Yasir 'Arafat's health and believe his condition is far more serious than his doctors would have it. At the same time, the sources believe that although the PLO leader is in no immediate danger, it will take quite some time before he returns to full activity, if at all. They pointed out that 'Arafat has not been fully active in the past few months.

The same sources foresee infighting within Fatah as a result of the demand to appoint a deputy or a successor to 'Arafat. They observed that such infighting might have an impact on the situation in the territories and that if 'Arafat's condition were to deteriorate, riots might break out in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. Sources in the territories noted that the Army has stepped up its alertness. [passage omitted]

Qaddumi Running PLO During Convalescence

TA0206050692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Yasir 'Arafat was transferred last night from the recovery room to his room at al-Husayni Hospital in Amman. His condition is described as stable. Faysal al-Husayni this morning said that while 'Arafat is hospitalized, Faruq Qaddumi has assumed his duties and is responsible for making decisions on the various issues. Our correspondent, Moti Amir, reports:

[Amir] Faruq Qaddumi is the man who is running the PLO these days while 'Arafat is bedridden. That is what Faysal al-Husayni told us this morning. He said that several members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks met yesterday evening at his home in East Jerusalem and received continuous updates on 'Arafat's condition. The information we received from Amman, al-Husayni stressed, indicates that the PLO leader is not suffering from a serious illness and that after the operation was deemed a success, it became clear that everything will be all right.

Last night, 'Arafat was transferred from the intensive care unit back to his regular room at al-Husayni Hospital in Amman. His doctors say he is recuperating at a satisfactory pace. The 62-year-old 'Arafat has regained consciousness and is not suffering from any complications. Although there is no immediate danger to his life, the assessment is that it will take some time before 'Arafat resumes all his duties.

Meanwhile, East Jerusalem notables have denied that there is any argument over the demand to appoint a successor for 'Arafat. The East Jerusalem officials stressed that at the moment, Qaddumi is running the show and that if the need for a successor arises, the PLO leadership will be convened. [passage omitted]

Egyptian Envoy Cites al-Asad on Peace-Golan Trade

TA0206103192 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 2 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by Dan Avidan]

[Text] Egyptian Ambassador Muhammad Basyuni yesterday said that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad would agree to sign a peace agreement with Israel in return for an Israeli withdrawal from all of the Golan Heights. In a meeting with Arab affairs correspondents, Basyuni added that al-Asad will not give up even one inch of soil on the Golan Heights. The ambassador explained that the peace al-Asad would agree to implement with Israel would include full recognition of Israel, the lifting of the economic boycott, the establishment of joint diplomatic relations, economic and cultural ties, and the opening of the Israeli-Syrian border to people and goods.

Basyuni stressed, however, that al-Asad will not sign a separate peace treaty with Israel and will demand that progress be made in the negotiations between Israel and the other Arab states and between Israel and the Palestinians in parallel with progress on the Israeli-Syrian track.

Rabin: No Surrender of Golan

TA0106175092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin says Israel will not leave the Golan Heights, not even in return for full peace. The Labor party chairman made those remarks during a tour of the Ta'anakh region in reaction to a protest organized by Golan residents who demand that Rabin, who has proposed a territorial compromise in the Golan, be prevented from addressing the rally marking the anniversary of the Six-Day War next week.

Knesset Member Rabin also said that the Golan and the Jordan Rift Valley were civilianized during the Likud rule, but not enough funds were invested in them. Israel should defend Tel Aviv from the confrontation lines in the Jordan Rift Valley and Jordan, rather than at 'Imanu'el.

Army Denies Knowing About UN Patrols in Lebanon

TA0206102492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] In response to reports from Beirut that UN forces are patrolling Marj 'Uyun, Hasbayya, and al-Khiyam in the security zone, the Israel army says it knows nothing about this.

Chief of Staff on 'Stormy Week'

TA2905130792 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 May 92 pp 1, 8

[Report by army affairs correspondent Dani Sade]

[Text] Chief of Staff Ehud Baraq yesterday told YEDI'OT AHARONOT that "Israel has no interest in getting involved in an all-out confrontation with the Syrians, but we will continue to act against terrorists. We believe that the Syrians have good reason to avoid any clash with us."

Baraq added that "this was a very stormy week. There was an attack on a convey near Arnun and Staff Sergeant Yisra'el Ma'atuf was killed by terrorists. There was a series of Israel Air Force [IAF] attacks on Hizballah targets and other operations designed to strike at this organization."

The chief of staff noted that "the attack on the convoy was apparently carried out by a Palestinian organization, perhaps by Jibril's group. We will also continue taking care of them. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will continue to strike at terrorists even in areas adjacent to the security zone and at their staging points."

Baraq asserted that "we nevertheless cannot expect the Hizballah or the Palestinian terror organizations to stop their activity; however, the blows they are receiving are hampering them. We can only wait and see whether this will motivate the parties operating in Lebanon, especially the Syrians and the Lebanese Government, to use their influence to block the terrorist activity."

Commenting on the exacerbation of violence in the territories, the chief of staff said: "The IDF is making vigorous and consistent efforts to focus on the hard-core elements which attempt to kill Jews, murder local Arabs, and are responsible for most of the activity. We will continue to employ our best units, despite the casualties we occasionally suffer.

"The death of 'Eran Sobelman [border policeman killed in clash with Hamas terrorists on 24 May] is a tragic loss, and the murder of Rabbi Shim'on Biran is a tragic and serious incident. However, we call on the Israeli public and the Israeli settlers in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, to exhibit self-control and restraint even in the worst moments," the chief of staff concluded.

Further Reportage on Elections, Campaign Ads

Shamir Vows To Uproot Terrorism

TA2905134092

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0432 GMT on 29 May airs a further batch of election campaign ads by Labor, Likud, SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim], and Charlie Biton's Hatiqva.

In the Likud ad, broadcast at 0437 GMT, an unidentified female announcer asks rhetorically how a prime minister is tested. "Great prime ministers are not those who try to curry favor. Great prime ministers are devoted heart and soul to the advancement of the people and the state. Great prime ministers cultivate a young generation of leaders to continue along their path and to take responsibility for the future of the state. Great prime ministers are capable of handling important missions and do not collapse under pressure. Great prime ministers know how to lead the people to achieve its national goals without compromises. We are hosting in our Likud studio Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

[Begin Shamir recording] "Lately, the defense establishment—the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the security elements—have achieved very important successes in the war against terrorism and the intifadah. To a large extent, the spearhead of Arab terror has been broken. The terrorist organizations are panicking and in confusion. Many of them gave themselves up to the security forces. The despicable murders which have taken place lately in Bat Yam and Kfar Darom constitute a phenomenon which digresses from all the rules of behavior operating between people, even the most extreme people. That phenomenon is the culmination of the animal hatred which exists among some of our enemies. It requires special treatment through extraordinary measures, which we will not detail today. These measures will be taken. I understand the anger and hurt of the people of Israel over those dastardly acts, but at the same time, I call on the people of Bat Yam and others not to direct their anger at the security forces and the Israel Police because by doing so they are missing their target, which is uprooting terrorism, and that will be achieved." [end recording]

Election Poll Results Reported

TA2905154092 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 May 92 p 1

[Report by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat]

[Text] A poll conducted by Dahaf gives Likud, the right-wing bloc, and the religious party a total of 60 Knesset seats, while a poll by Teleseqer gives Labor, Meretz, and the Arab parties a total of 61 Knesset seats.

The question asked was: If elections were held today, who would you vote for? (The results are quoted in Knesset seats.)

Party	Dahaf	Teleseqer
Labor	42-43	33
Likud	33	35
Meretz	10-11	11
Tehiya	4	3
Moledet	4	3
Tzomet	4	3

Party	Dahaf	Teleseqer
National Religious Party	5	5
Yahadut Hatora	5	6
SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim]	5	4
RAKAH [New Communist Party]	(5 seats to	3
Arab Democratic Party	three parties	3
Progressive List for Peace	together)	0
Moda'i's New Liberal Party	0	0
Immigrants' Party	2	0
Others	0	0

Both polls were conducted during the first three days of this week on a representative sample of the adult Jewish population. Dahaf's comprised 610 respondents, while Teleseqer's comprised 501.

Compared to previous polls, Labor registered a drop (from 46 to 42 to 44 seats), while Likud rose (from 31 to 33 to 35 seats). Teleseqer's poll indicates that Labor and its partners have a blocking majority of 61 seats, while Dahaf's poll shows that the Likud and its partners have a blocking majority of 60 seats.

According to both polls, none of the new parties, including Moda'i's New Liberal Party (with the exception of the immigrants' party in the Dahaf poll), gets the minimum quota to qualify for a Knesset seat.

It should be pointed out that the polls were conducted earlier in the week and, most likely, the findings do not fully reflect public sentiment concerning the girl's murder and the ensuing turmoil in Bat Yam and the recent security incidents.

HADASH, PLP Vote Agreement

TA3005163592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] will sign a surplus vote agreement with Knesset Member [MK] Muhammad Mi'ari's Progressive List for Peace [PLP]. Our correspondent Shulamit Schmerling points out that HADASH's secretariat decided on this move after weeks of pondering whether to sign such an agreement with the PLP or with MK 'Abd-al-Wahab Darawshah's list.

HADASH's secretariat also voiced concern about the rise in terror and phenomena such as the calls: Death to the Arabs, heard in the disturbances in Bat Yam. HADASH notes that such phenomena harm normal relations between the two peoples in Israel and jeopardize the peace process.

NRP, Tzomet Launch Radio Ads

TA0106113592

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0431 GMT on 1 June airs another series of election campaign ads by parties not previously covered.

The National Religious Party's [NRP] ad comes on at 0438 GMT with a recorded introduction by Education Minister Zvulun Hammer, who says his party's appeal is directed to "religious Zionists who realize their fealty to their spiritual Jewish roots, their love for the entire Israeli people, and their responsibility toward the security, construction, and defense of Israel, but who nevertheless want a strong national camp." Noting that the NRP has distinguished itself as a loyal member of the national camp and that it supports a Likud-led government, he calls on voters to support the NRP "in order to build a large and strong national religious camp that will give public expression to your positions and influence as a Jew abiding by the Torah of Eretz Yisra'el."

Hammer's message is followed by a humorous skit purporting to show what education in Israel would look like if Meretz Knesset Member [MK] Yosi Sarid were education minister. The ad ends with a jingle saying that "if you worry about the future of your children and of your country, you must know that the NRP is on your side."

Tzomet's ad is introduced at 0440 GMT, saying that "MK Refa'el Eytan, also known as Raful, stands out" against the background of mudslinging between other parties "by putting the issue of education on the agenda." In a recorded passage, Eytan explains that Tzomet decided to give top priority to four issues: "First, education; second, security; third, settlement and aliyah; and fourth, economic independence." He calls for bettering the working conditions of teachers and elaborates on his achievements in bettering the education of underprivileged soldiers when he was the Army's chief of staff. Eytan finishes his message by saying: "If we are right, give us the chance to be a big party; give us the chance to try to make good on our word." The ad ends with the jingle: "There is only one Raful, a man of principles, a man of action. You may agree or disagree with him, but everybody knows that although he does not talk much, he means every word."

'Abd-al-Shafi Urges End to Internecine Killing

TA0106065992 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] The campaign of condemnation and denunciation is continuing in the wake of an increase in internecine killings in the territories, especially in the Gaza Strip. Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian negotiating delegation to the peace talks, who was interviewed by our correspondent Hasan Abu-Zayyid, recently called a mass rally in Gaza in which he stressed the residents' denunciation of these violent acts.

[Begin recording] ['Abd-al-Shafi] The people in general feel that there is no real justification for the killings. The offender can be punished in another way, in which the punishment does not end in murder, because this method creates problems in society. Hence, the general feeling is that this process must be discontinued.

[Abu-Zayyid] Why do the national figures not issue a public call for an end to this phenomenon?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We have made such public calls at mass gatherings. I say frankly that our society is distressed and dissatisfied with the continued use of this method, especially because of the possibility that innocent people may be the victims of this approach. Furthermore, the general feeling is that there is no real justification for punishing these people with death, taking into consideration the problems this could create.

[Abu-Zayyid] Dr. Haydar, does the fact that the killings continue mean that the Palestinian leadership inside has lost control of the situation?

['Abd-al-Shafi] First of all, the political leadership abroad, as you may recall, issued an appeal by Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to stop the killings. There has been no response to this demand. Naturally, one can assume and I am confident that the leadership inside is dissatisfied with this method. Its continued usage, therefore, leads one to the conclusion that the leadership inside is not in complete control of the situation.

[Abu-Zayyid] Mass gatherings have been held in the Gaza Strip recently. Have any practical steps been adopted to end this phenomenon?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I hope that there will be practical steps. Evidently, as is clear, the practical steps will be in the form of appeals to anyone involved in these acts and to society in general. The popular organizations have no police force or other means to stop these killings. The appeal, therefore, is to the people in general to resolve their differences without resorting to this violent method of murder.

[Abu-Zayyid] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, what are the future steps in the peace process?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We call on Israel to abandon its intransigent stance and to respond to the appeals for peace. We are sure that our position is balanced. It is progressing toward a just peace on the basis of the establishment of two states, as well as peaceful and neighborly relations. We expect Israel to respond to this call. I would like to stress here to the Israeli people that we are sincerely moving toward a just and peaceful solution. I would like everyone to realize this. I hope that the current opportunity to establish a just peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples will not slip past. [end recording]

Al-Husayni on Ending Killings

TA0106181292 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jun 92 p B2

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, a leader of the Palestinian team to the peace talks, by Yosi Torpstein; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Torpstein] Have you discussed the issue of ending the murders with Palestinian leaders in the territories?

[Al-Husayni] We directly contacted some leaders in secret, but now the contacts are being held in the open. Members of hierarchical organizations have for some time stopped killing collaborators. However, small gangs operating outside such organizations continue to kill. The public debate and the contacts with the leaders dwelt on these gangs in particular.

[Torpstein] Could you estimate how many of the killings are perpetrated by each of these gangs?

[Al-Husayni] Most of them are perpetrated by unorganized men. Youngsters decide they belong to this or another organization; they act and then place responsibility for their actions on the organization. These people can be influenced only if the public comes out fervently against the execution of collaborators, as it is done today.

[Torpstein] Since July 1989 the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat have been making declarations designed to link the execution of collaborators to decisions of the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah. 'Arafat even went as far as saying that the authority to execute people lies with that leadership. What was the reason for this statement at this time?

[Al-Husayni] The small gangs realized that the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah would not issue orders to punish collaborators, and that is why they decided to take independent action. The leadership was supposed to issue statements saying that investigations had revealed that a certain man did this or that and that he should be punished in this or that manner. However, the leadership failed to do that. Obviously, when the pertinent elements failed to make good on a decision, action was taken by others. Take the incidents in Los Angeles, for example. The people rioted when the U.S. court failed to punish the policemen. Unfortunately, the attempt of the Unified National Leadership to prevent the killings brought about this phenomenon.

[Torpstein] Is there a clear-cut PLO policy concerning collaborators?

[Al-Husayni] The PLO has a revolutionary court that includes a prosecutor, and so forth, as is the case in Lebanon. It also has laws, but they cannot be implemented under occupation.

[Torpstein] Is the killing of collaborators based on those principles?

[Al-Husayni] Occasionally the killings were perpetrated by responsible activists, well-versed in the intricacies of the law, but this is not always the case.

[Torpstein] What is your personal position on this matter of principle?

[Al-Husayni] My position on the general subject of executions is clear: I am opposed to them. At the same time, I must point out that this fundamental position cannot be implemented in the circumstances in which we live. As I mentioned earlier, the fact that the supreme authorities abstained from issuing such orders drove marginal elements to do as they please on the issue. The killings were not curbed; rather the number of killings rose.

[Torpstein] Are there any alternatives to the killing of collaborators?

[Al-Husayni] It is hard to come up with alternatives under occupation, but the best solution is education and strengthening social structures. That is exactly what we need today.

[Torpstein] Are you calling for a total halt to the executions?

[Al-Husayni] If we can do that.

[Torpstein] You have recently mentioned "a covenant of honor." Is that still a priority issue for you?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, we are dealing with it. However, we must get a commitment to that effect from the forces operating in the field.

Arens Rejects Criticism of Territories Units

TA3105054492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has rejected recent criticism of the Army's special units operating in the territories. Arens said last night that the recent incidents of terror are a reminder of the reality we live in. He said the Army will continue pursuing terrorists everywhere.

Sharon, Kollek Disagree on Settlement in Jerusalem

TA3105153092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has strongly attacked Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek. Jerusalem does not have a national, but rather a partisan leadership today, and the city's leaders are trying to apply the Alignment plan to Jerusalem and to impose on the Jewish people a capital that is not united. Our correspondent Ya'el Ayalon reports that Minister Sharon said this during the dedication ceremony of Bet Valero in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City, also known as Bet Hanetzah [Eternity House]. Members of the 'Ateret Kohanim Yeshiva purchased the house, and the Construction and Housing Ministry renovated it. Hundreds arrived for the ceremony in buses provided by the Likud. [Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 31 March adds that "Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon said that the number of residents in Jerusalem today stands at 545,000, an increase of about 280,000 people since the Six-Day War." The radio adds, "In a review in the cabinet of construction in Jerusalem, Minister Sharon added that during the past 25 years the number of Jewish residents in the city has decreased by 2 percent, and currently stands at 72 percent.]

In reaction to Minister Sharon's attack, Teddy Kollek says that as a resident of Jerusalem he can express his opinion about a historic site and that history will determine who is correct. Teddy Kollek told our correspondent Gil Litman: I continue to oppose Jewish settlement in the historic-archaeological City of David site.

The Peace Now Movement claims that preparations are under way for the establishment of a new settlement west of Kfar Adumim. Our correspondent Gil Litman reports that the movement's follow-up team this morning toured the site and saw heavy equipment engaged in groundbreaking work. A road was broken through to the site a few days ago. According to Peace Now, the new settlement will be manned by members of the Uriya nucleus, which has been waiting to move into a settlement of its own for a long time. The Israeli Government is cooperating with the settlers and responding to their extortions, the Peace Now Movement declared.

Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld has learned from the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza that reference is to a new neighborhood of Kfar Adumim for which planning and establishment had been legally approved. According to the council, the recent wave of murders we have witnessed must result in an increased presence throughout the land of Israel.

The sit-down strike by leaders of Gush Emunim and its Amana settlement movement opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem has been going on for two weeks. The strikers, who are demonstrating against the construction freeze in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, claim that the Finance Ministry is still not allowing building contracts to be signed for 5,600 housing units, which had been approved and budgeted for in the 1992 fiscal year. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that a week ago the prime minister informed the NRP [National Religious Party] leaders that a lifting of the freeze had been agreed upon with the Finance Ministry, but according to the strikers, this has not come to pass yet. Our correspondent has learned that in today's cabinet meeting Education Minister Zvulun Hammer of the NRP reminded the prime minister of his promise and Shamir answered that the contracts will be signed today.

Low May Immigration Figures Show 'Gradual Ebb'

TA0106102892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Some 3,360 immigrants from the CIS came to Israel in May, the lowest number since the wave of immigration began.

According to Jewish Agency Chairman Simha Dinitz, signs are increasing that this is not a temporary slowdown, and it might point to a gradual ebb in the volume of immigration.

Our correspondent Rina Matzliah reports that 16,000 immigrants came from the Soviet Union to Israel in May 1991 and 10,000 in May 1990.

Arab Foreign Ministers' Meeting Postponed

JN0106114292 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] A meeting of the foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and the PLO, due in Amman on the 3d and 4th of this month, has been postponed until the 6th and the 7th of June. The Jordanian Foreign Ministry announced that the postponement was prompted by urgent engagements by some Arab foreign ministers who will participate in the meeting.

'Arafat Undergoes Removal of Blood Clot in Brain

Operation '100 Percent Successful'

JN0106162592 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Statement by Dr. Yusuf al-Qusus, director of the Royal Medical Services, to unidentified radio correspondent in Amman on 1 June—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Qusus] Yasir 'Arafat underwent an operation to remove a blood clot underneath the endocranium caused by the crash of his plane on 7 April 1992. The operation was 100 percent successful and he is in very good health. We wish him recovery. He will remain in the hospital with us for three or four days.

[Correspondent] Thank you, doctor.

[Al-Qusus] You are welcome.

King Husyan Visits 'Arafat

JN0206052992 Amman Radio Jordan in English 0430 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] His majesty the king last night visited Palestine President Yasir 'Arafat who is convalescing at al-Husayn Medical Center after a successful operation to remove a blood clot on the brain.

Doctors assured his majesty of the success of the operation and wished the Palestinian leader quick recovery.

Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir also visited Mr. 'Arafat in hospital.

'Arafat underwent the operation yesterday for subdural hematoma, an injury doctors said was caused by a recent plane crash in the Libyan desert.

Jordanian-Palestinian Talks, Relations Viewed

JN0106091092 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Jun 92 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Jordanian-Palestinian Meeting"]

[Text] The meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and his brother Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat along with their talks, consultations, and exchanges constitute another link in a long, solid chain of meetings characterized by sincere brotherhood, deep understanding, and joint vision.

It was natural, therefore, that the main focus of the meeting was on continuing joint coordination, expanding the spheres of understanding between the Jordanian and Palestinian political leaderships, and emphasizing the solidity and strength of the cooperation, dialogue, openness, and confidence which have always marked this distinguished fraternal relationship.

It is also both important and urgent that the two fraternal leaders evaluate, in a spirit of sincere fraternity, the present long stage of negotiations and the obstacles facing them, as well as their future prospects on the bilateral and multilateral levels.

The importance of such high-level bilateral meetings is that they are held on the eve of the conference of the foreign ministers of the Arab countries participating in the bilateral negotiations. It is hoped that this conference will conduct an in-depth discussion of the course of negotiations, which appear to be stalemated due to the continued Israeli rejectionist and intransigent policy. What gives more importance to this evaluation—which we believe is not too late—is the Israeli aggressive practices and systematic terrorism, whether in southern Lebanon or the occupied Arab territories. These Israeli practices aim at sabotaging the peace efforts and the fragile ground of the peace process, particularly in light of the cosponsers' disregard of all these condemned Israeli practices.

His Majesty King Husayn's meeting with his brother President Yasir 'Arafat and the upcoming foreign ministers' meeting will restore some of the aspired unity to the Arab position. It will also provide the Arab negotiator with one of the most important political cards available; that is, a unified Arab position on the peace process, especially since we are all aware that the real beneficiary from the continuation of the current Arab situation is the Israeli enemy, which is doing all it can to sabotage the peace process and force the Arabs to abandon it.

Delegate to Barcelona Multilateral Talks Returns

JN3105194092 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 May 92

[Interview with Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordanian delegate to the Barcelona meetings convened within the context of the mutilateral peace talks, by announcer Ghalib al-Hadidi in the Amman television studio—live]

[Excerpts] [Al-Hadidi] Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordan's chief delegate to last Wednesday's steering committee meetings in Barcelona held within the context of the multilateral talks, has returned to Amman. The Barcelona session reviewed the reports submitted by the five

working committees on the progress of the talks. With us in the studio this evening is Dr. Fayiz al- Tarawinah. Good evening.

[Al-Tarawinah] Good evening to you.

[Al-Hadidi] What is your evaluation of the steering committee session, and what are your expectations for future meetings?

[Al-Tarawinah] Thank you, brother Ghalib. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. That meeting was the second following the Moscow organizational session. We undertook an evaluation of the meetings of the five committees that were convened in different locations at the beginning of the month. [passage omitted] The common denominator of the five meetings was the importance of establishing a link between the bilateral and multilteral talks.

The five meetings also stressed the need for progress to be made in the bilateral talks in order for the multilateral committees to proceed smoothly and to address issues of regional cooperation. It will not be possible for us to tackle any items, big or small, at the multilateral level unless agreement is reached on the fundamentals that form the terms of reference for the bilateral talks. This was a key issue on which all the interlocutors agreed. They welcomed the participation of Palestinians from outside the occupied territories in the economic and refugee committees. [passage omitted]

Agreement also was reached to convene the next sessions in early fall, by which time several meetings will have been held at the bilateral level in Rome after having been relocated there from Washington. It is hoped that by then the bilateral talks will have made headway in order to allow the multilateral committees to play a more aggressive role. We are now thinking and speaking in terms of a post-peace era, and peace is strengthened at the bilateral talks. The meetings of the five committees have been determined. However, there has been a lack of consensus over the formation of new committees. A Jerusalem committee, a human rights committee, and a third committee on health have been proposed but, in the absence of a consensus, the matter has not yet been decided. [passage omitted]

Chief Delegate to Arms Talks Interviewed

JN3106205492 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 31 May 92

[Interview with Dr. 'Abdallah Tuqan, Jordan's chief delegate to the arms control and regional security committee arising from the multilateral talks, by Murid Hammad in the television studio—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Hammad] You recently returned from Washington where you attended the multilateral peace talks on arms control in Washington. What went on there? You have stated Jordan's position, and you have made specific demands. Now can you brief us on what happened in Washington?

[Tuqan] Certainly. The first multilateral peace negotiations on arms control regional security took place in Washington between May 11th and 14th. It was basically a seminar approach for mutual familiarization of terms in this field. Now, what happened there in the first couple of days—we were given seminars; we were given presentations by top leading U.S. diplomats who were involved in the U.S.-ex-Soviet bilateral arms control negotiations to present the concepts and ideas.

On the first day, we were all given a chance to present our position papers. I presented the Jordanian position paper and, basically, we asked for two basic requirements: One is that when we talk about regional security—i.e. the prospect of preserving peace and stability—this must be looked at in all dimensions of the political, military, and economic dimension. Therefore, all the other multilateral baskets, you might call them, and working groups—which is environment, water, economic development, and refugees, as well as arms control—regional security should be linked and there should be a linkage issue between them. Secondly, when we talk about weapons of mass destruction in the region, we have reached the point where it's become extremely dangerous. At one hand, you have Israel that has the nuclear capability. On the other hand, you have other states that have the chemical capability.

What we are looking for and hoping for is that based on the Bush initiatives of May 1991, as well as UN resolutions, Security Council Resolution 687—whereby in Paragraph 14, they state that this will be the first step in establishing a weapons of mass destruction-free-zone in the Middle East—that the following steps could be taken. One is that all countries in the region could sign and ratify the nuclear nonproliferation treaty, and will abide by the International Atomic Energy Agency rules. Two: To sign the biological weapons convention of 1972. Three: To sign and abide by the upcoming chemical weapons treaty that is being at the moment negotiated in Switzerland and, hopefully, that it might be completed by this year. Four is to stop acquiring and producing and testing of ballistic missiles and other surface-to-surface missiles, which, as we know, has been increasing in range from year to year. And the fifth point is to stop the acquisition, production, and all related research and development into fissionable materials and nuclear weapons development, and, finally, to maybe establish a regional agency to monitor and control and to do the implementation of the above.

[Hammad] Let me interrupt you and ask you. The first one on the list that you made was signing the nonproliferation agreement. Israel has nuclear weapons, although it publicly denies that, but it is a fact. It remains a fact. But it is not a signatory to the nonproliferation agreement. Would there be an effort by the United States and the Russians—the cosponsors of the peace talks—to push Israel into signing this agreement?

[Tuqan] You see, there are a number of things. One is Israel... [changes thought] We all know and it's a known fact that Israel has nuclear weapons. There have been statements from Israel that they will not be the first country to use or introduce it into the area. They say that it is a weapon of last resort. You see, all these three terms are a contradiction in terms between each other. This nuclear policy ambiguity has been creating and breeding insecurity in the Middle East, which is giving rise to the concept of poor man's atomic bomb, which is the chemical and the biological weapon. So, therefore, what we want to do initially is there is the concept of acknowledgement. They have to acknowledge, and they have to come out and renounce them, and acknowledge the fact that they have them.

The next step is we start with these signatures of these treaties. And, then third, when you sign there is the implementation and there is the verification aspect of it. Just as a point of interest, when we were in Washington, they invited us to an agency called the On-Site Inspection Agency, which was established to monitor and inspect between Russia and the United States of the intermediate-range ballistic missiles, nuclear ballistic missiles, part of the so-called INF Treaty. Now they have scheduled visits and they have unscheduled visits, which means challenging. And they challenge each other to different facilities to see whether they are adhering to the treaty. This is where we come into the implementation, verification. But that is, obviously, a later on stage. Now, in the initial stage, it is a recognized international norm for all civilized countries to renounce these weapons and to sign and ratify these treaties.

[Hammad] Dr. Tuqan, one final question. We don't have very much time, but I want to ask you about the future. You will be meeting in the fall in another attempt to talk about regional arms disarmament and so on. What will be your next step?

[Tuqan] Well, one of the things we've asked for in the upcoming next seminar is that if we can have regions within the states, within the regions, countries within the region present their perceptions of regional security requirements. They are, obviously, different in many ways. We want to have a look at them and then we want to introduce the concept that one has to look in the political and economic dimension. And, again, this might take the form of a seminar once more because the multilaterals are complementary to the bilaterals. They do not replace the bilaterals; they reinforce them. So, there are some fundamental issues which have to be solved in the bilaterals. For example, we have borders. We cannot talk about confidence security-building measures; i.e, establish joint military information exchange or inform each other about any military movements when the borders are not defined. So there are some basic issues that have to be defined and have to be solved in the bilateral, then we look at the multilateral in the future to see what issues can be then implemented to reinforce the bilaterals. So, really we are working on this seminar approach at the moment to look at the concepts and ideas and the examples and lessons learned from the history of the arms control.

[Hammad] Dr. Tuqan, thank you very much for coming here and it's a pleasure to have talked to you.

[Tuqan] Thank you.

Minister Denies Saudi Refusal of Hajj Visas

JN3005075592 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
30 May 92 pp 32, 28

[By 'Abdallah al-Qaq]

[Excerpts] His Eminence Shaykh 'Izz-al-Din al-Khatib al- Tamimi, minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs, has denied that the Saudi Embassy in Jordan refused to grant visas for Jordanians wishing to perform the pilgrimage this year.

In a statement to AL-DUSTUR yesterday, his eminence said that the Saudi Embassy in Amman has made great efforts to provide pilgrims with all they need. He added that the Saudi consul and his assistants have played an active role in finalizing the necessary paperwork for this year's Jordanian pilgrims. [passage omitted]

His eminence said there is great cooperation between the Ministry of awqaf and Islamic affairs and the Ministry of Pilgrimage Affairs in Saudi Arabia to ensure the comfort and safety of pilgrims. He added that this cooperation will help to bolster bilateral relations in the service of Islamic and Muslim issues.

Further on Reaction to Israeli Attacks in South

Al-Sulh Asks for U.S. Intervention

NC0106130092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh asked the U.S. ambassador to ask his government to intercede in stopping the Israeli aggression. Upon leaving the Government Palace today, al-Sulh spoke to reporters, saying: The U.S. ambassador visited me this morning to congratulate me about the new government and about winning the vote of confidence. Our discussions focused primarily on southern Lebanon. I believe the Israeli aggression against our brothers in the south and in western al-Biqa' are unjustified and demonstrate Israel's aggressive intentions. I told him this frankly, he added, and requested that the United States intercede in ending these acts of aggression. We can no longer accept or remain silent about such aggression, he said, adding: The U.S. ambassador promised that he would convey the request to his government.

Al-Sulh discussed economic issues as well, saying: Yes, the government will take practical measures about economic issues, and we hope that these measures will be taken as quickly as possible. He added: The competent ministers are working out these measures, which will improve the economic and financial situation in Lebanon.

Al-Sulh Details Meeting With President

NC0106173892 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1638 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh, followed by remarks in response to questions by unidentified correspondents after his meeting with President Ilyas al-Hirawi in Beirut on 1 June—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Sulh] I called on his excellency the president this evening and discussed with him—the foreign minister also participated in part of the meeting—the issue about the Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon; the need to confront them; supporting the steadfastness of our brothers in the south and providing them with all means of assistance and support to stay in their land; and confronting this unjustified criminal aggression. We agreed on several matters in this regard, which we will implement as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, the Iranian foreign minister will arrive in Lebanon tomorrow.
[Al-Sulh, interrupting] Yes.

[Correspondent] Will you discuss this issue with him?
[Al-Sulh] We will meet at 1115 tomorrow. I will tell you everything after the meeting.

[Correspondent] Has a date been set for the Cabinet meeting?
[Al-Sulh] The day after tomorrow, Wednesday.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, will you discuss the issue of parliamentary elections at this meeting? It has been said that the interior minister will raise the issue.
[Al-Sulh] There is an agenda for the Cabinet meeting. Read it, and you will find out.

[Correspondent] Did you discuss the question of administrative appointments today?
[Al-Sulh] No. We only discussed the issue of the Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon.

Fadlallah Cited on U.S. 'Pressure'

NC3005071692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] 'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah asked if the state is serious about liberating the land and making the Lebanese stronger or is being inspired by the United States. He stated that we are required to bow to Israel, adding that more than one voice within our ranks, media, and politicians speaks for Israel.

Fadlallah said the enemy does not meet the mujahidin face to face but kills women and children and bombards villages from its aircraft. He said the United States—which supports Israel against Arabs and Muslims and is committed to protecting Israel militarily, politically, and economically—sent numerous messages to Syria and put pressure on Lebanon so that the resistance will stop resisting.

Hizballah's Qasim: No Orders From America

NC3105064592 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps in Lebanon held a religious ceremony in Imam 'Ali's mosque in Ba'labakk to mark one week since the martyrdom of a group of mujahidin during the barbaric Zionist bombardment of the Janta township.

His Eminence Shaykh Taskhiri [not further identified] spoke on behalf of the Guard Command, calling for returning to the course of the prophet's family and the pure imams to preserve our dignity and pride. Drifting from it brings humiliation.

Taskhiri stressed the need to show forbearance in the battlefield, because Islam will eventually govern the Islamic countries and the world and the arrogant states will be eliminated.

Taskhiri said the response to Israeli arrogance will be in line with Islamic interests.

His Eminence Shaykh Na'im Qasim—Hizballah deputy secretary general—asked: What mercy does Israel have when it kills children and women and commits crimes against our people? And what mercy does arrogant America have when it sends booby-trapped cars to Bi'r al-'Abd and intervenes to disarm the resistance and stop it performing jihad?

His eminence said: We hear American advice—orders—to Lebanese officials to disarm Hizballah to establish regional stability. Hizballah's weapons have always been a sign of dignity and pride for Arabs and conscientious people, he remarked.

Addressing Lebanese officials who try to fall in line with the American wish, Qasim said: The resistance needs no advice about how to act, and it does not ask you to prepare its plans. You should contemplate your duty to support the resistance, he said.

His eminence added: We take no orders from America and will not let it interfere in our affairs, because America and its protege Israel caused the calamities, the injustice, and misery in this region.

Hamas Sends Cable to Hizballah Leader

NC0106065492 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement in Palestine, sent a cable to the Hizballah secretary general saluting the heroic position of the Islamic Resistance against the continuing Zionist aggression.

The cable reads: We are proud of our heroic Hizballah brothers for confronting the sinful attacks. We assure you that our struggles against the Zionist enemy in southern Lebanon and Palestine are one and the same. Your Hamas brothers pledge to God to continue their jihad and martyrdom in Palestine until they join with your jihad and courageous resistance in southern Lebanon to achieve victory and liberation.

SLA Commander Urges Halt to Resistance

NC0206080792 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Major General Antoine Lahd, South Lebanese Army [SLA] commander, said that if it wished, the United States could liberate Lebanon immediately from any foreign occupation, whether Israeli or Syrian. The United States has not yet decided to do so, he added. He said that liberation can only occur if the resistance operations against Israel are halted, because these operations are not Lebanese.

Lahd expressed regret that the big powers, particularly France, are not helping Lebanon obtain freedom, independence, and sovereignty. These powers are only talking about such matters, he added.

Lahd said that the current government—just like the last one—is a puppet of the Syrians. Addressing the government, he said: If you want a Lebanese resistance, you should order the Army to bombard the Israelis, which would be more acceptable than the attacks carried out by pro-Iranian elements. He urged the people to muster the courage and strength to rescue their country.

Commander Ja'ja' Returns to Headquarters

NC0106184592 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr. Samir Ja'ja' returned this morning to the Lebanese Forces' headquarters in al-Karantina [in East Beirut] from Ghidras [in the Kasrawan district].

Commentary Views Israeli 'Invasion'

NC0106151692 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 1330 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Station commentary: "History Repeats Itself in Lebanon"]

[Text] The current situation in Lebanon is almost similar to the one that prevailed at the end of 1960s. The Palestinians then were so filled with bravado and conceit that they believed they could throw Israel into the sea. Half of the Lebanese people then supported the Palestinian resistance and gave it southern Lebanon as a playground. The other half were against the resistance, considering it a threat to Lebanon. Civil war then broke out. The [Israeli] invasion of Lebanon followed in 1982. Beirut was besieged and the Palestinians were ousted from Lebanon for good.

Today, the Islamic Iranian resistance is occupying southern Lebanon. This resistance is filled with bravado, as the Palestinian resistance was before. It believes it will throw Israel into the sea. A section of the Lebanese believes the Islamic Iranian resistance will achieve the victory that all the Arabs have failed to achieve. These Lebanese claim that they are defending all the Arabs. The Arabs could not care less.

While the Palestinian resistance at that time enjoyed the support of the Arab states and Arab funds flowed into Lebanon, the Islamic Iranian resistance today does not enjoy any Arab support. On the contrary, this Iranian resistance has become a primary reason for the severance of Arab aid, for the starvation of the Lebanese people, and for their despair over the possibility of their country's salvation.

Just as the Israeli war against the Palestinian resistance began with bombardment and ended with a large-scale invasion, the Israeli war against the Islamic resistance also began with bombardment and will undoubtedly end with a large-scale invasion.

If the 1982 invasion was satisfied with expelling the Palestinians, the awaited invasion will not be satisfied with expelling Hizballah, but will force Hizballah's supporters to flee Lebanon because they are the root of the problem.

If we look at the balance of power in the region, no reasonable person will expect a different result. Given the current international developments and the desire of the sole superpower to impose a new world order free from

terrorism, it is impossible for terrorism to survive, even it hides behind the facade of resistance or liberation.

In view of the Arabs' conviction that war is futile, and in view of the fact that they are sitting at the negotiating table with Israel and Arab flags are flying alongside the Israeli flag in Cairo without complications and reservations, every reasonable person knows that Lebanon's fate will not be different from the fate of other states in the region. Peace resulting from direct negotiations will prevail. The Lebanese fanatics' desires are mere pipe dreams. The destruction the fanatics and foolish have caused for the south and its inhabitants will have no bearing whatsoever, neither on the solution intended for the region, nor on the solution intended for Lebanon. We do not believe that anyone is unaware of this.

Further on Israeli Offensive in South

Israeli Forces Shell Villages

NC0106161992 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces bombarded Qabrikha with 10 155-mm shells at 1600 today, causing heavy property damage, but no casualties were reported. At the same time, the Israeli forces opened tank fire on al-Qantarah's old quarter from the border strip. It is well known that no one lives in this quarter because of daily bombardment. In the meantime, two military helicopters flew over the two towns.

Israeli enemy aircraft this morning staged mock raids over Sidon, particularly its eastern part, for several minutes. The hostile aircraft renewed their mock air raids on Sidon and Tyre at 1345 today. The occupation artillery in 'Alman and al-Shumariyah bombarded the (?Wadi al-Hujayr) area at 1400 today. The al-Hamra' area overlooking Arnun and Mlita in Iqlim al-Tuffah came under a barrage of Israeli artillery fire a short while ago.

Syrians Fire on Own Fighters

NC0106170392 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Ba'labakk, Lebanon, June 1 (AFP) - Syrian troops and Hizballah Islamic fundamentalists opened fire Monday on Syrian planes flying over this eastern Lebanese town, mistaking them for Israeli aircraft, Syrian military sources in Lebanon said.

The antiaircraft fire, apparently designed to force the planes to gain altitude, did not hit any of the jets.

The sources gave no reason for the Syrian air movement, which came amid mounting tension between Syria and Israel, with the Jewish state blaming Damascus for anti-Israeli attacks by Lebanese-based pro-Iranian Hizballah forces.

Syrian military sources said their antiaircraft units, who had not been briefed on the overflights, believed the planes to have been Israeli.

Near daily Israeli air raids since May 21, notably in the Ba'labakk region, have killed 20 people and injured 53, according to an AFP toll.

Elsewhere, Israeli gunners on Monday sporadically shelled regions bordering their "security zone" in southern Lebanon, police said.

Artillery units pounded the Wadi al-Hujayr area, a regular crossing point inside the zone used by Hizballah to launch anti-Israeli attacks, according to police.

Armed Israeli patrols backed by helicopter gunships searched the areas near the central region of the zone to prevent any infiltration attempts, they added.

Syrian Forces Mobilized

NC0206064792 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 1 Jun 92 p 7

[Text] Part of the Syrian reserve force was mobilized as a precautionary measure in case of any Israeli military action against Syria or Lebanon, reflecting Syria's determination to confront any Israeli attack and the Zionists' increasing intransigence.

'Apprehension' Toward Syrian Withdrawal

NC0206085792 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Hizballah sources in Beirut expressed apprehension that the partial withdrawal of Syrian forces from Beirut Airport and surrounding areas might be a prelude to a more comprehensive withdrawal. The sources fear that the Syrians sold out the resistance to the Americans, as they did with the Kurdish Workers Party in al-Biqa'.

UN Forces Reportedly Patrolling Areas

NC0206061692 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Israeli warplanes overflew Nahr al-Litani and bombed areas near Zawtar al-Sharqiyah and Zawtar al-Gharbiyah last night. Meanwhile, Israeli forces shelled al-Hamra' farm near Qal'at al-Shaqif.

In another development, UN forces began patrolling the areas of Marj 'Uyun, Hasbayya, al-Khiyam, 'Ayn Qinya, and Shwayya for the first time since 1978. Citing security sources, UPI said that the UN forces will maintain permanent patrols in Hasbayya and Marj 'Uyun.

UN Patrols Denied

NC0206093592 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] In a telephone conversation with our military correspondent, the UN forces spokesman dismissed reports that the UN is patrolling the areas of Marj 'Uyun and Hasbayya.

Our correspondent early today stated that these reports are baseless and that UN forces are operating in an ordinary manner.

Buwayz, Iranian Foreign Minister Hold Talks

NC0206103492 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Nabilah Rizq Yasmin report from the Foreign Ministry—live or recorded]

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived at the Foreign Ministry in al-Ashrafiyah at 0950 today, accompanied by a delegation consisting of Mohamed Kazem Khansari, director general of the North Africa, Middle East, and Arab Countries Desk at the Foreign Ministry; Mahmud Hashemi-Rafsanjani, director of the Middle East and North Africa Department and President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's brother; Mohammad Hasan Akhtari, Iranian ambassador in Damascus; Homayun 'Alizadeh, Iranian charge d'affaires in Lebanon; Mr. Marvi, administrative president of the Algiers and North Africa Division; Mr. Bahar, the foreign minister's adviser; Mr. Qada'i, assistant director of the Protocol Department; and Mr. Khoshru, director of the Foreign Minister's Office.

The Iranians were escorted by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz and Chief of Protocol Ambassador Riyadh al-Quntar, who received them at the Syrian border. A Gendarme unit and senior Foreign Ministry officials gave them an official welcome at the entrance to the Foreign Ministry.

Discussions with the Iranian delegation began at 1000 today. In addition to Buwayz, the Lebanese delegation consists of Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, Foreign Ministry secretary general; Ambassadors Zafir al-Hasan, Ja'far Mu'awiyah, and Adib 'Alam al-Din; Counselor Yusuf Ursanius, director of the foreign minister's office; Counselor Sharbil Istfan, director of the Palestine Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Ilyas Haddad, Amin Khuri, and 'Imad Qabalan, members of the foreign minister's office.

After the talks, which lasted over an hour, the Iranian minister said that the meeting with Buwayz went very well. He said: We discussed bilateral relations, Lebanon's problems, international issues, and issues of mutual interest. We support the independence of Lebanon, a friendly country. We appreciate the unity and solidarity between the government and people of Lebanon in resisting the Zionist enemy. He added: Iran supports the Lebanese resistance against the Zionist aggressions with all its power. We also support the reconstruction of Lebanon.

Responding to a question on the two German hostages, he said: We did not discuss this topic. We are both opposed, however, to hostage-taking by any country. We too are victims of this, and have hostages who are held held. Iran is the first victim of hostage-taking. All hostages, regardless of their origin, should be released.

Asked whether Iran considers the resistance to be a militia, he answered: It is wrong to call it a militia. The resistance is an expression of the people's resolve. We understand that the Lebanese Government is on the side of the popular resistance, and opposes the Zionist enemy's aggressions. No one wants to see disputes between the government and the people.

Buwayz also made a statement.

[Begin Buwayz recording] We welcome Dr. Velayati and the delegation accompanying him. This visit is very important because we recognize Iran's influence in this part of the world in terms of heritage, civilization, and [word indistinct], especially at this critical stage.

This visit falls within the framework of bolstering relations on all levels. It also falls within the framework of coordination and negotiation on future steps, and coordination of efforts and resources.

The talks were profound, honest, and serious and will undoubtedly help to entrench, strengthen, and improve bilateral relations on the diplomatic, political, economic, cultural, and popular levels. [end recording]

The Iranian minister is currently meeting with Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh. He is also expected to meet with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni before attending a luncheon banquet Buwayz is giving in his honor at the Bristol Hotel.

PLO Envoy Meets Foreign Ministry Official

NC3005094792 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0920 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] PLO representative in Lebanon Shafiq al-Hut briefed Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, Foreign Ministry secretary general, about the talks held in Canada concerning Palestinian refugees.

Al-Hut said he told Shammas that the PLO supports the Lebanese Government in facing the Israeli acts of aggression.

The talks dealt with the Arab foreign ministers conference about the Arab-Israeli negotiations, due to be held in Amman in a few days.

Ambassador Shammas also met Information Minister Michel Samahah.

Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati Arrives on Visit

Brings Hashemi-Rafsanjani Message

JN0106125592 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 1 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Damascus this morning on a visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. [passage omitted]

In a statement to SANA correspondent, Dr. Velayati said that he is carrying a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Dr. Velayati strongly condemned the Israeli aggressions on southern Lebanon, and highly evaluated Syria's role in Lebanon and its support for Lebanon in face of the Israeli aggressions.

Al-Shar', Velayati Hold Talks

JN0106135392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Excerpt] A round of talks was held at the Foreign Ministry this afternoon between the Syrian side, led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and the Iranian side, headed by Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

On behalf of Syria, the session also was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur and the Foreign Ministry's Asia Desk director, 'Abd-al-Wadud Atasi. For Iran, Mohammad Kazem Khavansari, director general of the Middle East Administration, and Mahmud Hashemi, head of the Political Administration [names and titles as heard], were in attendance.

The talks focused on regional developments and the Israeli attacks on Lebanon. Bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest also were discussed. [passage omitted]

Meeting With Hizballah's Nasrallah

NC0206063692 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah, accompanied by some members of the movement's leadership council, met with Foreign Minister Velayati in Damascus yesterday. They discussed the latest regional developments and the attacks against southern Lebanon and al-Biqa' by the regime occupying Jerusalem which have killed many Lebanese.

Nasrallah emphasized Hizballah's firm determination to stand with the Lebanese freedom fighters in confronting the Zionist enemy's aggressions, defending the oppressed Lebanese nation, and striving to liberate the occupied territories.

Velayati reiterated Iran's firm support for Hizballah, and all the Islamic and national resistance forces in Lebanon, against the savage aggression of the Zionist regime.

Talks With Shaykh Sha'ban

NC0206070592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement of Lebanon, met with Foreign Minister Velayati in Damascus yesterday and discussed current regional developments.

Sha'ban mentioned Iran's sensitive and influential role in the region, especially in supporting Muslim nations, and praised its support for Muslims in Afghanistan and Bosnia-Hercegovina. He said: Iran's revolutionary stance is a source of pride for all Muslims.

Velayati Hails Syrian 'Steadfastness'

NC0206060692 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati and Syrian President Hafiz al- Asad discussed the latest Middle East developments during a three- hour meeting yesterday afternoon in Damascus. Velayati conveyed a message to al-Asad from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Bilateral relations, current regional developments, and important global issues were also discussed. Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' also attended the meeting.

Al-Asad expressed happiness with the high-ranking Iranian political delegation's visit to Syria. He also expressed thanks for Hashemi-Rafsanjani's friendly message. He emphasized the need to maintain good relations.

Commenting on regional developments, the Syrian president referred to the Zionist regime's crimes in the occupied territories and southern Lebanon, saying: We think that one of the Zionist factions is trying to exploit the protraction of hostilities for domestic political purposes, and to sabotage the current talks between the Arabs and the Zionist regime. He continued: They are also trying to occupy more Muslim territory. It is unfortunate that the United States and the West do not react seriously and properly to these crimes. The Syrian president added: Syria's policy on Israel has always been clear, and we will continue to follow this policy.

Velayati explained Iran's consistent and principled views, and described Iranian-Syrian relations as sincere and profound. He said: We have always praised Syria's steadfastness and stability toward the Zionist regime's threats, and have backed your steadfast support for Lebanon and Palestine.

UAE Deputy Prime Minister Concludes Visit

JN3005152292 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 30 May 92

[Excerpt] Damascus, 30 May (SANA)—His Highness Shaykh Sultan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, deputy prime

minister of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], left Damascus this afternoon after concluding a five-day visit to Syria. [passage omitted]

Al-Asad BBC Remark Cited on Israeli War Threat

JN0206055792 Amman Radio Jordan in English 0430 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has accused Israel of threatening to launch a war by attacking south Lebanon, saying the strikes are aimed at winning votes in this month's general elections.

In an interview with BBC World Service Television, broadcast today, President al-Asad said Israel had threatened to launch war and was carrying out raids against civilians, children, women, and old people, using advanced weapons which it obtained mainly from the United States.

Israel has launched a series of air raids against Hizballah, saying it will continue them until the resistance group stop attacking the strip of south Lebanon Israel occupies.

The Syrian leader said Syria would not strike first and accused Israel of blocking the Middle East peace efforts.

Afghanistan

Jehad Council Condemns Attack on Mojaddedi

LD0106174492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Statement by Jehad Council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, in this sensitive moment when our Islamic revolution has reached victory with the help of Almighty. Our war-hit and destructive country needs full peace and security, and a light of hope has been reflected in the hearts of each one of the people of our country as a result of the victory of our jehad and the situation in Afghanistan gradually advancing toward stability and security. Filthy hands are working from every direction to disrupt security and disappoint the Muslims and mojahedin of Afghanistan and instill fear and anxiety in the hearts of the people. One of their most treacherous actions was the missile attack on the plane carrying Esteemed Professor Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the Jehad Council and embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan while arriving from Pakistan to Kabul airport.

The Jehad Council and the Islamic State of Afghanistan, while expressing thanks to almighty God, that God Almighty has saved his eminent [Mojaddedi] and his accompanying delegation of more than 100 people, in addition to a number women and children as well as 15 members of the Jehad Council who were also on board, from this conspiracy, condemns this treacherous action strongly.

The Ministry of Defense and Security Commission should carry out a full investigation in this regard in order to find the perpetrators of this shameful incident and the judicial authorities should punish them in accordance with shari'ah and law.

Council Permission Required for Party Activity

LD0106163192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] The Leadership Council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan held a meeting today chaired by Esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, chairman of the Council.

Esteemed Hazrat Ayatollah Mohammad Asef Mohseni, secretary and spokesman of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, said to a correspondent of the Bakhtar Information Agency that the Leadership Council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, which is a very high decisionmaking body in the country, approved the following issues in today's session:

1. No party has the right of activity without official permission from the Leadership Council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, which can be obtained through the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Otherwise, it will be prosecuted.

2. The Ministry of Culture and Information is commissioned, as from today, within five days, to take council in order to form an authoritative decision on press, radio, and television affairs.

3. Headed by Esteemed Mawlawi Jalaloddin Haqani, the reconciliation delegation has been entrusted with the duty of taking pactical steps in the implementation of the agreed topics aimed at ending the war.

Rival Mojahedin Groups Clash in Southern Kabul

BK0206103292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1027 GMT 2 Jun 92

[By Pratap Chakravarty]

[Excerpts] Kabul, June 2 (AFP)—Intense fighting between rival mojahedin groups broke out in southern Kabul Tuesday as one group attacked the headquarters of interim Justice Minister Jalaloddin Haqani.

Rockets and shells pounded the city's Kote Sang-i district near the University as pro-Iranian Hezb-e-Wahdat Shias clashed with the Saudi-backed Ittihad-e Eslami, witnesses said.

Artillery and tanks joined in the fighting round Kote Sang-i and the university campus, sending women and children fleeing the area in panic. [passage omitted]

Many were reported killed and wounded, and hospitals reported admissions of civilians with blast wounds and bullet injuries.

"So far between 25 and 30 casualties have come in," said one source at the International Red Cross hospital several hours after the fighting flared, adding that the injured included women and children.

Reports said the Wahdat fighters attacked the headquarters of Haqani, who is also the head of a neutral mojahedin commission, based in the Chehlsatoon district on the city's southern fringes.

Three of his bodyguards were wounded, one seriously, in the attack, they said, adding that Haqani had been in the headquarters at the time.

He was however uninjured and left Chehlsatoon soon afterwards, one unofficial report said.

Tanks raced through the deserted streets of the city as markets hurriedly closed and government employees fled, many carrying children they had brought with them to their places of work.

Reporters returning from Chehlsatoon said the area was under a virtual state of siege with civilians kept away by heavily armed fighters.

They said the tanks racing for Haqani's headquarters had been sent from a government garrison to beat off another anticipated assault.

In Kote Sang-i, residents said the mainly Sunni Ittihad-e Eslami were engaged in hand to hand combat with the Wahdat fighters around the main government wheat silo and other areas.

The Hezb-e-Wahdat hold some 140 installations and a Scud missile base in Kabul, and are demanding five ministerial and three deputies' posts in the 51-member interim government.

Some reports said the attack on Haqani's headquarters was prompted by a demand from his commission that all mojahedin from the north of the country, including the Shiites, should withdraw from Kabul.

Telephone and telex services in some areas of the city were cut during the fighting.

Early afternoon reports said mojahedin gunmen had also opened fire in the vicinity of Kabul's main Pule Chisti mosque, forcing hundreds of shopkeepers and traders to flee.

The reports said however that the firing was in the air, and that it was a only a signal for businesses to close as a precaution against civilian casualties and was not a raid on the area.

Firing could also be heard in the vicinity of the diplomatic area of Vazir Akbar Khan.

Council Declares Security Ministry 'Illegal'

LD0106163392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] A session of the Leadership Council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan was held today and chaired by Council Chairman Esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani.

Esteemed Hazrat Ayatollah Mohammad Asef Mohseni, secretary and spokesman fo the Leadership Council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, told a BIA correspondent that the following decisions were made at today's Leadership Council session:

The session expressed regret over the incident on the aircraft carrying Esteemed Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the Jehad Council and embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, and condemned it.

The activity of the members of the Ministry of State Security, which was abolished earlier, is banned and illegal. A new department will be formed in the future by the Leadership Council.

Joint jehad forces should be formed within the framework of the Ministries of Defense and Internal Affairs and authoritative councils should be formed for both ministries from among the representatives of jehad parties.

Bangladesh

Outlawed Group Kills 5 in Rangamati

BK3005165592 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] The outlawed Shanti Bahini [Peace Force] members killed five persons and injured five others in two separate incidents in Rangamati this morning. A UNB [United News of Bangladesh] report says the miscreants in (Saifullah) village, Nagorkila, at Langari upazila [subdistrict] at about midnight and set ablaze dwelling houses. They opened fire indiscriminately when the inmates rushed out of their blazing houses. Three villages were killed on the spot and four injured. Seven houses were gutted and three cattle heads burned alive.

In another incident, the armed miscreants gunned down two others and injured one at Choto Jilupara at Kaukhali upazila also in the early hours of the day. The agency says the number of nontribals killed by the victims has gone up to 31 since the 12th of this month.

Burmese Refugees Number 265,080

BK0106130492 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh External Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] The Muslims from Arakan in Myanmar [Burma] continue to pour into Bangladesh unabated to escape persecution despite the agreement concluded between the two countries on April 28 stipulating their repatriation. The news agency UNB [UNITED NEWS OF BANGLADESH] says the number of Rohingya Muslim refugees who crossed into Bangladesh from neighboring Myanmar has swelled to 265,080 on Saturday [30 May].

Sanctions Imposed Against Yugoslav Republics

BK0106155292 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Bangladesh has decided to impose sanctions on Serbia and Montenegro of the former Federal Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia in compliance with the UN Security Council resolution. The sanctions imposed by Bangladesh include ban on all trade and air traffic and movement to and from Yugoslavia—excepting humanitarian cases, suspension of sports and cultural links, and scientific and technical exchanges with these two republics. The Security Council earlier adopted a resolution imposing sanctions on Serbia and Montenegro for interference and fighting.

Meanwhile, the Yugoslav mission in Dhaka is in the process of being wound up and at present only one

diplomat is posted in Dhaka. Similarly, the Bangladesh mission in Belgrade is being manned by only one diplomat.

Police Leave To Join UN Force in Cambodia

BK2905045692 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 0130 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] A 40-member Bangladesh police team has left Dhaka for Cambodia to join the UN peacekeeping force engaged there for maintaining peace in the cities. Another batch of a 120 policemen will leave Dhaka soon to join the UN peace corps in Cambodia.

India

Envoy Opposes Food Embargo in Serbia Sanctions

LD3005192692 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1900 GMT 30 May 92

[Excerpts] The Security Council is expected to impose mandatory and comprehensive sanctions against Yugoslavia by tomorrow to force it to stop fighting in Bosnia-Hercegovina. [passage omitted]

However, India, while condemning the violence, has stressed that sanctions should not include food embargo. Indian representative at the UN, Mr. Gharekhan, also pleaded for giving Belgrade more time to take corrective measures. [passage omitted]

U.S. Environmental Decision 'Unfortunate'

BK0206083892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] India has described as unfortunate the reported American decision not to sign the convention on biodiversity at the UN Conference on the Environment and Development, UNCED, beginning at Rio de Janeiro tomorrow. The union environment and forest minister, Mr. Kamal Nath, said in an interview on the eve of his departure as the head of the Indian delegation to the Earth Summit that India would have liked to see the United States play a more positive role. He expressed the hope that the developing countries will be able to prevail upon the United States to see the environment as a global partnership rather than as an issue of aid or assistance.

Mr. Kamal Nath said the U.S. has taken a tough stand on the issue of a funding mechanism for ushering in environment-friendly technologies. He pointed out that poor countries like India had by virtue of the frugal habits and poverty have been subsidizing the rich nations. On whether India has accepted the Global Environment Facility, GEF, mooted by the developed countries under UN auspices, Mr. Kamal Nath said India had always opposed the GEF in its present form as it is (?donor-biased). India will oppose any convention on forestry as it feels the forests are the wealth of individual nations.

Mr. Kamal Nath said India will speak out at the Rio summit on the urgent need to reduce emission levels of chlorofluorocarbons, CFCs, and halogens that damage the earth's ozone layer. India is going to Rio with the hope that the future of the planet shall be the collective responsibility of all nations.

Satellite Launch Despite U.S. Ban Hailed

BK0106143192 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 22 May 92 p 13

[Editorial: "A Timely Launch"]

[Text] The success of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) in placing a 106 kg satellite (SROSS) in orbit on Wednesday comes at the most opportune moment in India's space history. It convincingly demonstrates to the world that there can be no stopping Indian space scientists from developing an indigenous capability to put heavier satellites into orbits higher that 450 km with our own launch vehicles, the U.S. Government's restrictions and pressures notwithstanding. To the hawkish U.S. policy makers advising Washington for getting tough with this country using the future sale of Russian cryogenic rocket engines as a pretext, the satellite launch must come as stark evidence of India's growing capability. Surely, U.S. policy makers could not have been unaware that they were on unsure ground in imposing restrictions on ISRO [Indian Space Research Organization] ostensibly under the Missile Technology Control Regime at a time when India's space technology had apparently come of age. Also, that any precipitate action against India would only spur its highly motivated scientific community into redoubling its efforts towards achieving self-reliance in this particluar discipline. What must be particularly annoying to Washington is that India's success in the ASLV mission has come after two failures in 1987 and 1988, and close on the heels of a punitive American embargo. While it is true that the acquisition by India of cryogenic rocket engines would shorten the time for launching of satellites into the 36,000 km geostationary orbit, their denial under U.S. pressures will only serve as a challenge to the ISRO to develop on its own the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicles and Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicles at a future date.

If Indian space scientists can sort out the problems that were dogging the ASLV programme all these years (both technical and managerial), they sure have the will and capability to go ahead with these two advanced launch vehicles. The U.S. may have to reverse its hasty and quite unwarranted decision to single out the India space programme for punitive action as nothing can now stop the space programme going full blast in the civilian and defence fields. Next in the space launch program comes Agni, the 2000-km range missile, which was put through its first test in May 1989. Washington did its best to discourage New Delhi from going ahead with its successive test firings and the Indian Army's bid to induct the Agni missile fleet in its armoury. Now that the proof of

Indian expertise has been provided by our space scientits, the Indian Government should give all facilities to ISRO and DRDO [Defense Research and Development Organization] to forge ahead without any political interference. New Delhi need not fall into the trap of a debate on whether its missile development plans are either civilian or military in nature. All that is needed is that Prof U.R. Rao of ISRO and Dr Abdul Kalam of DRDO and their teams get the necessary assistance and encouragement for unhindered work on space ventures.

Editorial Views President's PRC Visit

BK0106154492 Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 May 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Fresh Start With China"]

[Text] President R. Venkataraman's nearly three-day stay in Beijing earlier this week, has turned out to be much more than a ceremonial affair. Probably, it would have been best not to hark back to the 1950s phase in Sino-Indian relations. That period evokes now mixed feelings. India wanted, and wants, Indians and the Chinese to be bhai-bhai [like brothers]. But what happened was very different. President Yang Shangkun's reference to the feeling of brotherhood harbored by the Chinese for Indians was heartening. But the bhai-bhai phrase has been discredited, and it is best not to reuse it when a fresh beginning is being made. President Yang said that it was not enough to revert to old days. The China-India relationship should be consolidated; otherwise, he was afraid, both would be bullied. He said that the combined population of the two countries, two billion, could not be bullied. The point was taken up by Premier Li Peng when he met President Venkataraman the next day and referred to to the manner in which the human rights issue was being raised to intervene in developing countries. He wanted the developing countries to come together to defend their sovereign right and independence. India stoutly defends human rights, but it is equally opposed to human rights being used for inteference in the domestic affairs of sovereign nations. Before President Venkataraman reached Beijing, India had supported China's admission as an observer to NAM [Nonaligned Movement] at the coordination bureau meeting in Bali in Indonesia. The Indians there had opposed linking developmental aid to the human rights record of a developing country, as perceived by the donor country. Viewed in this context, President Yang's reference to the combined population of the two countries expresses a desire not merely for expanded bilateral ties but also for wider cooperation of the two in the international field. But in India-China cooperation, the border dispute is the main hindrance. Although both countries have decided to work together in a variety of fields of activity, the border issue is central to normalisation of relations between them. Premier Li wanted the two sides to issue a political directive to the joint working group [JWG] to resolve the dispute. But such a directive can be given only if the Indian side knows what the Chinese have in mind. President Venkataraman's visit, while giving a boost to the JWG's work, should give Indians an insight of Chinese thinking. China detonated a 1,000 kiloton nuclear bomb when Mr. Venkataraman was still in that country. The timing may or may not have been coincidental. But it certainly brought home to India in an explosive way the fact of life that mere words do not alter certain realities.

Pakistani Intelligence Sets Up 'Guerilla' Camp

BK0106110892 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 22 May 92 p 3

[Text] Poonch—Pakistan's inter-services intelligence (ISI) supervising subversion in northern India, especially Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, has set up a new camp to impart training to militants in modern technique of guerrilla warfare.

Set up in thick forests spread over 2000 hectares of land acquired by Pakistan recently, the camp is in Trakhal area of the Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), according to reports from across the line of control.

Militants belonging to the Allah Tigers group, operating in Kashmir, are undergoing training at the camp under the supervision of ISI and secret subversive group of Pakistan Army.

Cholera, Gastroenteritis Claim 89 Lives in Bihar

BK0206040692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] In Bihar, at least 89 people have died of cholera and gastroenteritis and over 2,300 affected with the disease in Darbhanga and Madhubani districts during the past one week. Reports say 55 people have lost their lives in Madhubani District alone and nearly 1,800 have taken ill. The state government has pressed into service two mobile teams and 40 doctors to treat the ailing people.

Assam Police Fire on 'Mob'

BK0206040092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] In Assam, three persons were killed and several others injured when police opened fire to control a mob. The mob was indulging in looting and attempting to attack a police station in Lumding township in Nowgong District yesterday. Official reports in Guwahati said the trouble started when the mob stormed the police station in a bid to secure release of six persons arrested by the police on Sunday in connection with some violent incidents.

Iran

Government Urges Rapid Sanctions Against Serbia

LD0106104692 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran called for the quickest possible implementation of the measures approved recently by the UN Security Council for an embargo against Serbia and Montenegro. Our country's Foreign Ministry issued a statement welcoming Resolution 757—approved by the Security Council—which stresses the need for an economic, commercial, air, cultural, and sports embargo of Belgrade. The Foreign Ministry announced that this resolution includes many of the points previously demanded by the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

The statement adds: The international community must implement the approved sanctions as soon as possible and also bring other pressures to prevent the continued aggression by Belgrade against the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the violation against that republic's sovereignty.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry also called on Belgrade leaders to respect the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina's independence and to stop killing Muslims so that it does not damage its relations with Islamic countries any further.

Iranian Ambassador To Saudi Arabia on Relations

LD0106153392 Tehran IRNA in English 1239 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Athens, June 1, IRNA—Tehran's first ambassador to Riyadh said that Saudi Arabia and Iran were two wings without which the Islamic world cannot fly.

"The Islamic world has two wings, and it is not possible for this world to fly without its two wings of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Both have their weight and place in the Islamic world," Dr. Mohammad 'Ali Hadi told Saudi daily AL- SHARQ AL-AWSAT in a full-page interview published Sunday.

He underlined that Iran was seeking firm and strong ties with Saudi Arabia and all other Muslim countries in the region, without interfering in their internal affairs.

Hadi, 44, is the first Iranian ambassador to Saudi Arabia since the establishment of an Islamic Republic in Iran. He holds a Ph.D. [Doctor of Philosophy] in international relations from Karachi University and speaks fluent Arabic, English and Urdu.

The Iranian envoy blamed Saddam Husayn of Iraq for creating misunderstandings between the Arab world and the Islamic Republic of Iran in the past.

"It was he who installed a delusion of the presence of Iran as an enemy. Unfortunately the Arab world was deceived by Saddam Husayn because it listened to only one side," the Iranian Ambassador said.

At the same time when Saddam Husayn was claiming that he was defending the Arabs against the assumed Iranian aspirations, he himself was planning to invade and occupy Kuwait.

Hadi said that after the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait, the world saw the true face of both Iran and Iraq.

Iran was the first country to condemn the Iraqi occupation and called for its withdrawal from Kuwait.

He said Saddam Husayn "kept us occupied for 8 years in the war and the world did not understand us."

If relations and cooperation between Iran and Saudi Arabia had been strong the area would have been spared a lot of suffering and probably the Iran-Iraq war would have not taken place, nor the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Hadi said.

"A weak Iran is not in the interest of the Arab states. The power of Iran is the power of Arabs, and the power of Arabs is the power of Iran."

He stressed that Iran's arms "will never be used against the Arabs" and the Arab arms are not necessarily against Iran.

"Has any Iranian official expressed concern about arms and weapons purchased by any Arab state," Hadi questioned.

"Power in Iran means power of Saudi Arabia and all the countries of the region," Hadi added.

Referring to the Damascus declaration, he said Iran must be taken into consideration in any security set-up in the region and that the presence of Iran cannot be ignored.

The regional states were responsible for the security of the Persian Gulf region, Hadi said.

The continuance of Saddam Husayn in power or the change of Saddam by another Saddam represents a great danger for the region, he said, denying that Iran was trying to become the dominating power in the region or to become the policeman of the area.

"We favour cooperation between the states of the region for stability and security," he said.

The problem of the Islamic world, he pointed out, was that the weapons they purchased were used against each other and not against the common enemy.

Regarding the republics of Central Asia, he said Iran and Saudi Arabia should cooperate in helping these states for progress and prosperity.

He said Iran has relations with all Arab countries and Tehran's ties with Egypt may be restored soon.

Hadi dismissed the propaganda about Iran's connection with the Zionist state as "merely Israeli lies."

"They want to accuse us because we are a Muslim state which stands against them. Can they prove that Iran was getting weapons from Israel? Iran does not recognize Israel and is even against the peace talks with it," Hadi said.

President Condemns Attempt on Afghan Leader's Life

LD3005201192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani sent a message to Mojaddedi—head of the Afghan interim government council—on 30 May condemning the assassination attempt against him. The message reads: Islamic Afghanistan clearly needs peace and stability today, as it lives through the most sensitive, decisive moments in its history. Conspiracies such as this do nothing more than create instability and disturbances. The Islamic Republic of Iran earnestly supports unity of expression among and the serious avoidance of dissension and disputes between all Afghan mojahedin groups. The message adds: The Islamic Republic of Iran hopes that Islamic Afghanistan will put the current difficult times behind it as soon as possible so that the groundwork is laid for rebuilding Afghanistan and repatriating refugees.

Commentary Warns Afghan Leaders of 'Plots'

LD3005230792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1830 GMT 30 May 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Yesterday's missile attack against the aircraft that was carrying the president of the interim Afghan mojahedin government once again drew attention to the need for security on the part of that government. Irrespective of the fact that any party or group is suspected in this regard, the incident shows that in the absence of an invulnerable security, anything can be exposed and be annihilated. This incident—which also occurred in other identical cases, namely airliners being shot preceding a political conflict—is a terroristic move that will only lead to an increased chaos and escalation of the risk of expanded foreign intervention. It is extremely worrisome that an attempt is being made to resolve the differences through assassinating the leaders. Undoubtedly, as long as there exists such leaders with whom issues can be resolved through diplomatic negotiation, it will be possible for everyone to discuss logical demands.

In the absence of this point, the only alternative would be removing rival groups to settle the issues. Since all the groups are fully armed, one can imagine that a war even bloodier than the one that lasted for 13 years will take Afghanistan to a horrible conflict anew. This is an important point, that, at the present juncture, Afghanistan is in need of greater understanding and self-restraint than ever before. It is also essential that the leaders—while keeping away from any prejudgments and unilateral demands—come together sagaciously and work for the stability and future security of Afghanistan through reaching a general understanding. Everyone is aware that if it is intended to fill up the differences and distances with the corpses of those killed and all the blood already shed, it will practically be impossible to achieve that goal in the future. Hence, it is necessary that prior to embarking on any further bloodshed and occurrence of more unpleasant events, the differences and disputes should be terminated.

This issue, too, must be seriously viewed. Under the present regional circumstances—when there is a general need for establishing stability in Afghanistan, should the mojahedin leaders, who endured many years of hardship to drive the occupying forces out and to overthrow the installed government—fail to provide the needed stability and tranquillity under the present conditions. The undesired Muslim forces will take the advantage of imposing themselves on Afghanistan. Will such a situation not provide an exceptional opportunity to those groups that have so far been attempting to secure control by relying on superpowers? There are [word indistinct] that this suspicion that arrogant elements—in order to carry out their designs—are seeking to enter the scene through proving the inefficiency of the mojahedin government for bringing about tranquillity and stability. And, it is not remote that there may be some plots underway to take the situation to that direction.

Aid Memorandum Signed With Afghan Province

LD3005213192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] In line with the policy of good-neighborliness and strengthening friendly and fraternal ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] and Afghanistan, a memorandum of understanding in the political, cultural, and economic fields was signed this morning in Mashhad between Khorasan Province and Farah Province. The memorandum of understanding states that the IRI agrees to secure Farah Province's emergency fuel and food requirements. Both sides decided to prepare the necessary facilities for commercial border exchange. To meet Afghanistan's health, financial, and cultural needs, Khorasan Province announced that it is prepared to establish a pharmacy, equip and commission a hospital, and boost radio and television in Farah Province and other cities.

Sheykholeslam on U.S. 'Insult Against Muslims'

LD0106175292 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 1, IRNA—The U.S. has insulted the world Muslims by banning the hajj flights from Libya, head of the Libyan awqaf (religious endowments) organization said here today.

He told Deputy Foreign Minister for Afro-Arab Affairs Huseyn Sheykholeslam that this U.S. act has no meaning other than an obvious insult against Muslims. "The U.S. in fact wants to impose its domination over the Muslim world," he added.

He also called on the Islamic Republic of Iran to convey the message of the oppressed Libyan Muslims to the world.

Sheykholeslam in reply condemned the U.S. oppressive move, and stressed the need for the unity of Muslims against the enemies of the Islamic world.

Elsewhere he said the Zionist regime's crimes against the oppressed Muslims in Palestine and Lebanon require further consolidation of the Muslims' unity against imperialist and Zionist conspiracies.

Reportage on Visit by Malaysia's Foreign Minister

Badawi Meets With Vice President

LD3105014192 Tehran IRNA in English 1504 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA—Iran's vice president and head of the planning and budget organization Mas'ud Roghani Zanjani here today in a meeting with Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi proposed that the two countries upgrade their relations. Zanjani also expressed optimism that Iran would benefit by utilizing Malaysia's experience in development strategies, and in developing non-oil exports. He said there were various ways for broadening relations with Malaysia. The two countries have a permanent joint commission.

He and Badawi, heads of the joint commission, discussed bilateral cooperation on exports and technical exchanges. They agreed on certain points of principle in relation with a projected third joint commission of Iran and Malaysia, in July.

[Tehran IRNA in English at 1623 GMT on 30 May adds in a Tehran-datelined report: "Iran's Commerce Minister 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji told visiting Foreign Minister of Malaysia Abdullah Badawi here today that Iran was willing to allow transit of Malaysian goods to and from the newly independent Republics north of Iran. He noted that the Central Asian and Caucasus Republics north of Iran had to trade with other nations, an opportunity which Malaysia might want to use. The Malaysian official welcomed the proposal adding that his country was interested in broadening relations with Iran in every sphere of business and economic activity. Adverting to the presence of Iran and Malaysia at the Group-77 countries at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Iranian minister recommended that the Group-77 adopt united strategies in the interest of all member states of the organization. UNCTAD's Group-77 is composed of Asian and Latin American countries in addition to the Pacific island states."]

Meets With Velayati

LD3105013192 Tehran IRNA in English 1533 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA—Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, in a meeting here today discussed Tehran-Kuala Lumpur ties and the latest regional and international developments.

Badawi expressed hope that with the convention of Irano-Malaysian joint commission in Kuala Lumpur new decisions will be adopted for the expansion of mutual relations in all dimensions. The Malaysian official described Muslims' condition in Bosnia-Hercegovina as "disastrous" and said the United Nations must play its role to prevent the massacre of innocent Muslims there. Badawi called the aggressions of the Quds [Jerusalem] occupying regime against the Muslim people of Palestine and Lebanon an open violation of human rights and urged the world countries to stand against these aggressions.

Velayati said in response that the improvement of bilateral relations with Malaysia enjoyed a special place in Iran's foreign policy. On Afghanistan's recent developments, he commented "we hope Afghanistan will soon regain its stability and tranquility to settle its internal problems, and the Afghans will be able to make their country an Islamic and a well-developed one." The Islamic Republic has sent about six plane loads of food and medicines to Afghanistan, Velayati continued. On the condition of Muslims in Bosnia- Hercegovina, Velayati said it was very deplorable and the Serbs committed brutal crimes against the Muslims. "To prevent the crimes, we believe, every possible means should be adopted," Velayati added. While condemning the aggressions of the Zionist regime against the occupied Palestine and Lebanon, Velayati stated "our stance is unchanged. We believe Israel is a usurper regime and we should try that this regime will not be recognized."

Judges Assigned To Investigate Mashhad Riots

LD0106160192 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Judiciary head Yazdi, at a judiciary officials meeting today, referred to the recent incident in Mashhad and similar occurrences in some towns.

He said: The Judiciary will firmly and decisively deal with any lawbreaking and contravention of regulations. It will not tolerate any violation of the legitimate sovereignty of the system—which was established and fortified with martyrs' pure blood—and will punish the instigators and perpetrators of such incidents under the law.

Stating that our system is based on Islamic law and justice, he said: Social order necessitates that every person must rely on the law to attain their rights and consider the Judiciary as the reference point for public grievances. Any resort to sabotage—even if aimed at attaining one's lawful rights—is tantamount to law-breaking and confronting the sovereignty of the system. The Judiciary will deal with such actions quickly and decisively.

He added: To review the case quickly and accurately, experienced judges were given special assignments to look into the charges against the incident's instigators and perpetrators and to take the necessary legal action. [passage omitted]

Also at the session, Mr. Hamid Reza Nikbakht was appointed the Judiciary's chancellor of the faculty of legal sciences and administrative services.

Editorial Criticizes New Majority in Fourth Majles

PM0206101092 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 20 May 92 p 1

[Unattributed editorial: "Repercussions of a Lack of Supervision Over Actions"]

[Text] The results of the elections for the Fourth Majles indicates an opportunity to try another faction in the political arena. Yet this is not the first time for those who gained a majority in this round to be directly judged by the people.

We come across bitter truths when we analyze the lack of achievement in safeguarding the ideological principles of the revolution by those who held the majority in the Third Majles. Looking into these issues could stop the continued fall within the forces of the revolution. Rivals seeking power regard this matter in a different light and act in a diferent manner because of their limited thinking. They regard their rise to the lofty heights of success to be a direct result of their own economic and political power. They do not learn enough from the experience of others or themselves.

What is important in preventing a fall in the revolutionary forces is the necessity to describe various actions in detail for the people and also to impose a systematic way of supervising actions.

During the Third Majles there were some who did not understand the issues of the revolution, so they went their own way. There was, however, another group who had the power to see into the future and had a clear background. Because of this, the group could have been considered a backbone of the revolution. But because it lacked the correct supervisory system, it took a divergent path and distanced itself from those basic principles laid down by the founder of the Islamic revolution.

We now face a Fourth Majles with a majority that has not achieved very good results in the Third Majles and that also does not have the necessary foresight for a revolution or for a world with changing economics and ideologies. The repercussions of this very same lack of foresight has in the past surpassed its insistence on the Islamic nature of the regime.

A changeover in the lawmaking body is a natural thing. After such a change, the forces who are sympathetic, who are not linked to foreign powers, can present their abilities to the people. What we called a "fall in forces" in this editorial is not easily acceptable. If a person who was tried and tested on the scenes of struggle is left completely alone at the top of a very sensitive executive position, there are two mistakes that will be made. There are the possible personal swerves. But there are also the repercussions of a lack of attention, which leaves honest people vulnerable to all sorts of tricks and other methods used to cause them to deviate, especially in the field of foreign trade. This has to be taken seriously. During this round, one of the elements that could deepen this concern is the way the private sector is regarded. There are those within the faction that have now gained a majority in the Majles whose views about the private sector and the limits they set for the activities of the private sector could not even be achieved in the West. If this line of thought is not carefully monitored, perhaps we will see even more dire consequences.

Commentary Cites DPK Report on 'Federalism'

NC2905204592 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 27 May 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Democratic Party of Kordestan [DPK] Central Committee prepared a report about federalism to the Ninth Congress, known as the Qasemlu Congress. The report reads: As far as national rights are concerned, much is being heard about a federal system for the future Iran. These comments do not consider the multinational character of Iran and, on the whole, attempt to solve Iran's racial problem through federalism instead of autonomy. We do not believe that these positions have been adequately thought out yet. But we can say that we do consider Iran to be a multinational country and believe that all the people of Iran have the right to achieve their national rights. The reason we have been proposing that Kordestan be granted autonomy is because we have not wanted to portray ourselves as the guardian and voice of all the nationalities in Iran. If, however, in the future, the idea of a federal system gains popularity among the progressive Iranian parties and the Iranian public accepts that system, the DPK will fully support it. In fact, 13 years ago, in an official message to Khomeyni, our party proposed a federal system as a solution to Iran's national problems.

To further clarify our position, we hereby provide a few points that, we hope, will help clarify our views about a federal system: National oppression in multinational countries is exercised by the leadership in the political,

economic, and cultural arenas. Struggles to overcome this oppression come in various forms as well, namely in the form of the struggle to achieve full independence; the struggle for the unity of dismembered national territories; the struggle for autonomy; and the struggle for forming federal governments within the framework of a singular country. This also applies to people's struggles for their self-determination, the meaning of which is clear: It means that each nation has the right to separate itself politically from other nations and can form its own independent and separate government.

Since the end of World War II, national struggles and national liberation movements have been so successful worldwide that today respect for a nation's self-determination has become one of the principles ruling relations among nations. Various pacts signed on the issue—the international pact about social, economic, and social rights, and the UN pact about civil and political rights, in which the autonomy right of all nations has been recognized—are proof of this.

Each of the above pacts state the following:

1. All nations have a right to autonomy and can freely determine their political situation and their economic, social, and cultural progress.

2. All nations can, in order to achieve their objectives as far as their national resources and wealth are concerned, freely take any type of possession without violating obligations envisioned in international economic cooperation based on mutual rights and international law, and in no case can a nation be deprived of its sources of livelihood.

3. The countries that have signed these pacts—namely those countries that rule autonomous territories—should facilitate the autonomy of nations and respect these rights on the basis of the UN Charter.

In addition to these pacts, the right of self-determination was endorsed by various world governments and organizations, including UN resolutions, the Bandung Declaration, and the Nonaligned Movement. The contents of these pacts show that the right to self-determination has a broad meaning and that it guarantees nations' full independence and forming federal governments as well. But the way the right to self-determination is to be exercised is not determined by each nation's special circumstances and on what each nation wants.

In our multinational Iran, the national problem has deep social-historic roots and is linked to the lives and struggles of the various peoples and has always been the real meaning behind such movements. The Iranian regimes have tried to confront the political wants of these nationalities to preserve their power and a centralized decision-making mechanism. Instead of understanding the facts and offering logical solutions to stop national oppression, they resorted to pogroms and violence.

Since World War I, the movement of the Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan has always had a national identity. In offering a solution to the national problem—and keeping the Kurdish people's situation in mind—the DPK chose the slogan of autonomy for Kordestan and democracy for Iran as its strategy. It also strived to fulfill this objective.

The autonomy the party wants is aimed at answering the need for a political solution of the Kurdish people in Iran and for ensuring democracy, which is based on economic, political, and administrative decentralization. In other words, there is a strong dialectic bond between ensuring autonomy and establishing democracy.

The Kurdish peoples' request for autonomy means rejecting centralized power and decisionmaking. This decentralization or power distribution should be achieved by bearing in mind the historic, social, economic, and cultural characteristics of the Iranian people, who are the source of political authority. The intention here is not to form an autonomous region by maintaining a centralized government and the right of absolute decisionmaking in the hands of the center. The intention here is the application of the right of self-determination by establishing a decentralized democratic political system.

The national problem in Iran can also be solved in a federal way. The DPK lauds the serious efforts by political forces to this end and does not believe that the Kurdish people in Iranian Kordestan are separate from the other nationalities living in Iran or that these nationalities' right of self-determination is a necessary condition for establishing democracy in Iran. Forming voluntary federal governments or autonomous governments in Iran will ensure the country's territorial integrity and independence.

While the DPK does not believe dismembering the nation would be useful, it also rejects centralized power and decisionmaking and emphasizes the need to resolve differences. It considers expressing the specific boundaries of the just rights of the Iranian peoples among these peoples and the central government, implementing these rights, and the authority for decisionmaking as efforts towards establishing democracy.

The decades of experience of the Kurdish and other people of Iran have proven that whenever a centralized and totalitarian government has been in power in Tehran, democracy has been trampled. And the rights of the Iranian people have been violated and that instead of offering a logical solution to the people's political and social problems, these regimes resorted to pogroms. The power centralized in Tehran has always been an important element in suppressing people. It harmed these peoples' unity in struggles and mobilized them against each other. For example: in the past, the Kurds were used to suppress the Baluchis; the Azerbaijanis were used to fight the Kurds.

This situation can end, to a certain extent, by creating a federal government—if the possibility that the central government will exploit the people in implementing its chauvinistic policies and in suppressing them will decrease.

Within the framework of federalism, people voluntarily give a central government certain duties. These duties are foreign relations, defending the country's independence and territorial integrity, managing the country's monetary and banking system, and preparing long-term economic plans that need large capital. In the process of the growth and expansion of democracy, federalism means the participation of the majority in exercising their sovereignty rights in rejecting the centralization of political and economic authority. This conforms with our party's requests to ensure democracy, the national rights of the oppressed nations, and rapid economic growth.

Pakistan

Spokesman Denies Bhutto's Statement on Sindh

BK0106164392 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] A spokesman for the president said in Islamabad today that no proposal of any kind for invoking any constitutional article to use the Armed Forces in Sindh was ever sent to the president by the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government during its entire period. He was commenting on a recent statement of Benazir Bhutto Sahibah, in which she had alleged that her government had sent an advice to the president to invoke Article 147 but he did not sign the advice for two months. The spokesman recalled that the president had always felt gravely concerned over the deterioration of law and order in Sindh under the PPP administration. He said it was in fact the president who had repeatedly impressed upon the then government, those at the federal and provincial levels, the urgent need to properly and effectively address the situation. In addition to a public pronouncement, the president had written a number of letters on the subject urging the government to seriously consider if the time had not come to call upon the Armed Forces to act in aid of civil power in Sindh in accordance with the Constitution and law. However, instead of taking the suggested action in time, the then government engaged in a lengthy internal debate among its legal experts as to which of the two articles of the Constitution—147 and 245—to invoke.

Finally, to ward off growing public pressure the then government submitted in the third week of July 1990 a draft ordinance to amend the Criminal Procedure Code [CRPC] which will be only legal measure ever suggested by the government to deal with the law and order situation in Sindh. The spokesman explained that the proposed ordinance had been drafted on the lines of an earlier ordinance promulgated in October 1988 after the Hyderabad carnage on the eve of general elections. That ordinance had widened the scope of CRPC, enabling the provincial government to secure the assistance of the Armed Forces for public security, protection of life and property, public peace and maintenance of law and order. However, it had been allowed to lapse in February 1989 by a flux of time. The ordinance proposed by the PPP government sought to add to CRPC a set of new provisions of the highly sensitive nature which were not found feasible.

Briefly narrating the president's objections to the proposed ordinance, the spokesman said it would have undermined the discipline of the Armed Forces. It would have also disrupted the Army's command and control structure and given rise to various other problems of legal, administrative, and technical nature. The draft ordinance was, therefore, returned to the then government within 12 days for reconsideration.

The spokesman emphasized that all this was a matter of official record which no one should try to distort in his or her exuberance to put the blame for his or her failing at somebody's else's doorsteps.

Curfew Imposed in Khairpur District Border Areas

BK0206014492 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0100 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Curfew has been imposed for 24 hours in the 8-km perimeter of the border areas of Khairpur District [of Sindh Province]. A dusk-to-dawn curfew has also been imposed in the 25-km perimeter of the border areas of the same district.

PRC Given Down Payment for Nuclear Plant

OW0206101092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] Islamabad, June 2 KYODO—Pakistan has paid China approximately 27 million dollars as a down payment for the supply of a Turnkey 300 megawatt nuclear power plant, official sources said Tuesday. Pakistan signed a contract in 1991 with China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) for the supply of the plant, to be installed at Mianwali in northern Punjab, about 150 kilometers north of Islamabad.

The National Assembly on Monday approved the government's supplementary budget for 1991-92 which included the provision of 693 million rupees "to meet additional expenditure on development projects of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission." The officials said that the amount was already paid to the Chinese company as a down payment for the plant.

Agreement With India on River Flood Information

BK0206040592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] An agreement has been reached between Pakistan and India under which India is to provide information

on the flood situation in rivers. The agreement was arrived at during the Pakistan-India standing commission on Indus river session which met simultaneously in Lahore and Islamabad. Under the agreement, India will provide information on the flood situation via telephone four times daily beginning 1 July. The situation will be broadcast over Radio Jammu and the information on various stages of the flood situation will be passed on through telegrams on a priority basis. India will also provide information by telephone daily on the flow, outflow, and water level in rivers even during the absence of any flood situation.